

THE JOURNAL

Friday, January 18, 2002

50 cents (tax included)

Inside Albany schools chief Gary Mills will retire [A10]

Inside El Cerrito officials take in a movie in Oakland [A10]

Hometown band delivers some down home music



THE WHISKEY BROTHERS from left, Craig Fletcher, Jeff Ward, Ran Bush, John MacFarlane, and Craig Fletcher, play lively bluegrass tunes every other Wednesday night at The Albatross in Berkeley. They will play in the San Francisco Bluegrass Festival on Feb. 9 and many patrons of the Albatross expect that they would play there every Wednesday.

■ Working stiffs by day, the El Cerrito musicians become the bluegrass Whiskey Bros. by night

By Matt Petersen
STAFF WRITER

A storm drives a mass of water down San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley on a late December night, making it look more like the Russian River than a street.

Though surrounding streets are barren of traffic, a few brave souls, umbrellas or jackets pulled over their heads, hurriedly move toward a cozy beacon: the Albatross Pub, or "The Bird" as locals affectionately call it.

Cozy The Bird is, a mixed crowd of Generation Xers to Baby Boomers on up, mingle in front of pints of beer or glasses of wine, talking or playing one of the board games kept behind the bar.

Meanwhile, a small group of musicians has arrived, and start tuning up the guitar, fiddle, banjo and bass. Then they begin to

WHISKEY BROS.

■ The Whiskey Bros. will play from 3-4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Atlas Cafe, 3049 20th St at Alabama in San Francisco, with The Warblers and Chuck and Jeanie. Admission is free and all ages are welcome. Details online at www.sfbbluegrass.org.

■ They will also perform Feb. 6 and 20 from 9-11 p.m. at the Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave., in Berkeley. There is no cover charge. Details: 510-843-2473.

play.

As the music starts, the audience's attention turns from their games and conversations to the stage, and toes begin to tap to the sweet-as-homemade-cider melody.

The crowd knows the band well: they're El Cerrito's own Whiskey Bros., who appear at the Albatross from 9 to 11 p.m. every other Wednesday, rain or shine.

The foursome — Ran Bush,

stand-up bass; Craig Fletcher, banjo/guitar; John MacFarlane, fiddle; and Jeff Ward mandolin/guitar — mix bluegrass and West Coast swing with humor, grace and fervor, and the audience loves it.

After the first song, Bush steps from behind his bass and talks to the audience which, according to the bar staff, is growing by the week as the Bros. play.

"As always there'll be gifts and treats for the kids after the show," Bush says with a smile.

After another break, he jokes, "Hey, we're going to do one that the banjo player wrote." He pauses, looks from side to side and says, "Hey, you don't hear that one very often."

Most of the Whiskey Bros. met more than a year ago at one of the Thursday night jam sessions hosted by the now-defunct Fifth String music store in Berkeley.

The original members met fiddler MacFarlane through a friend of a friend a few months later; ever since, they've been playing

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Parade and rally will celebrate King's life

By Chris Treadway
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Monday's parade and rally marking the birth of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. promises to be an inclusive affair, focusing on youth and embracing different cultures under the banner of racial equality and understanding.

The theme for the 13th annual observance, "Building Hope for the Dream," puts local students center stage. Students at Hard-

ing, Castro and Madera elementary schools did artwork, essays and other creations that will be on display at an "Educational Reality Museum" set up in the Community Center. Some kindergarten classes created and signed birthday cards to Dr. King, others were asked to think of their dream and illustrate it.

The Castro jazz band will perform and the featured speakers

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CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

■ Parade assembly is at 9:30 a.m. at El Cerrito Department of Motor Vehicles office, Manilla and Kearney avenues.

■ Parade departs at 10:30 and goes to the Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane.

■ Rally/celebration begins at Community Center at 11 a.m.

EBMUD prepares to inspect tunnel

The Claremont Water Tunnel will be examined for problems next month, the first check in 30 years

By Clare Curley
STAFF WRITER

When a group of engineers descends into the Claremont Water Tunnel next month, it may be the first time anyone now working at EBMUD has had a glimpse inside the East Bay's main water conduit.

It hasn't been inspected in 30 years, so most who were familiar with the tunnel's innards have retired, and the utility, which serves more than 800,000 people living in Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

An inspection is long overdue, and EBMUD officials stand to gain some institutional knowledge from the visit, according to water system manager Richard

Sykes.

Water will be cut off for a week or two in February while EBMUD opens up the tunnel, which conveys treated Mokelumne River water from the Orinda Water Treatment Plant.

The inspection is the first step of a \$35-million project to construct a seismically reinforced bypass tunnel around the Hayward Fault.

A group of about 20 people will survey the grout lining of the tunnel to make sure rock particles aren't getting into the water system and to look for collapsed sections or exposed rock surfaces.

Treated water typically supplied from the Orinda Water Treatment Plant will not be available, and water will instead be provided from the Sbrante, San Pablo, and upper San Leandro district plants located respectively in El Sbrante, El Cerrito and Oakland.

The main focus of the in-

spection will be the downstream portion in Oakland where the tunnel crosses the fault.

If EBMUD goes ahead with the project, construction is planned to take place for several months each winter for two or three years.

The loss in water supply will be made up by using the three smaller plants, either by putting them in service or operating them at a higher rate, Sykes said.

A notice sent out last week warned customers of possible change in water pressure and flavor as a result of the inspection.

Those more upstream may notice greater pressure coming out of the faucets, whereas homes downstream may notice less.

The water will also contain more calcium and feel "harder" than the water that comes from the Pardee Reservoir, resulting in a slightly different flavor.

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One-car crash kills El Cerrito man

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EL CERRITO — An 82-year-old El Cerrito man died Tuesday night after he crashed his car into a tree on Cutting Boulevard. Police got a call reporting the solo vehicle crash about 6:20 p.m., said El Cerrito police Sgt. Shawn Maples.

Emergency crews were unsuccessful in resuscitation attempts. Jack Dean Rogers was pronounced dead at the scene.

Witnesses told police that Rogers was driving erratically in his 1967 Alpha Romeo just before the crash. It is not known if he was having a medical episode, which may have caused him to lose control, Maples said. Rogers was a widower who lived alone. Police have not yet been able to locate his family to tell them of his death. Police ask anyone with information to call 510-215-4423.



STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

A bevy of art lands on the Greenway

Dianne Rush Woods of the Albany Parks and Recreation Commission examines the latest work of artist Bill Creitz, one of the two new sculptures of quail mounted under the BART tracks in Ohlone Greenway Saturday morning. Volunteers from Friends of Five Creeks celebrated the installation of the quail sculptures on the railing they built on Codornices Creek at the Ohlone Greenway (codornices is Spanish for quails). The celebration followed a work party where volunteers put in native plants at the site, opposite 1200 Masonic Ave. and under the BART tracks on the Berkeley/Albany border. A grant from Alameda Countywide Clean Water paid for materials for the sculptures. The railing spans the Berkeley-Albany boundary, so the art had to be approved by commissions in both cities. Todd Jersey and Sam Kingore, local architects who designed the bridge rail pro bono, were also honored.

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Saturday stories

The Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., presents "Saturday Morning Stories and More" for ages 3-6. The free series runs every Saturday at 11 a.m., Jan. 19 through March 16. For more information, call the children's desk: 510-526-3720.

Spaghetti for soccer

The Friends of El Cerrito High Girls Soccer will hold a spaghetti dinner Jan. 26 at the Kensington Community Center. There will be two seatings, 5-7 p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m. Local chef Jamal Jawad will prepare homemade meat and vegetable sauces. Salad, bread and dessert will also be on the menu. Tickets are \$11 or four for \$40. Tickets can be purchased by calling Judy Mello at 510-235-4432 or going on-line at jmel13@aol.com. The goal is to improve the women's soccer program at El Cerrito High. Profits will go towards new uniforms and equipment bags, the end-of-the-season banquet and coach's support.

Get crabby

The Albany Lions Club will hold its annual crab feed Jan. 25 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1331 Portland Ave. in Albany. No-host cocktails are available beginning at 5:30 p.m., and dinner is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. The Lions promise mountains of crab, scores of door prizes and more. Call 510-527-4640, or 510-223-9153. No tickets will be at the door without advance booking.

Lions consume crabs

Join the Albany Lions Club at its annual crab feed on Friday, Jan. 25, at the

Veterans Memorial Building, 1331 Portland Ave. in Albany. No-host cocktails available beginning at 5:30 p.m., and dinner is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. The club promises mountains of crabs, door prizes and more. Reservations: 510-527-4640, or 510-223-9153. No tickets will be sold at the door without advance booking.

Demos meet

The public is invited to attend the Jan. 22 meeting of the El Cerrito Democratic Club in the street-level sanctuary of the Northminster Presbyterian Church on 45 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito at 8 p.m., following the 7:30 p.m. general business meeting of the club. At the meeting, the members will consider endorsements for officers and propositions on the March 2002 ballot. Details: Joe Franaszek, 510-524-4659.

Hancock in Albany

Loni Hancock, a candidate for the Democratic nomination of the 14th Assembly District seat, will meet the public at an appearance at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 28, at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. in Albany. The primary election is in March. Allan Maris, Jewel Okawichi and Thelma Rubin are sponsoring the event. Light refreshments will be served.

ECHS band at Yoshi's

The El Cerrito High School Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Band and the Portola Middle School Jazz Band will be performing on Monday, Feb. 11 at Yoshi's, 510 Embarcadero West in Oakland, with shows at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. The 8 p.m. show will include both the Portola

Jazz band and the two El Cerrito High jazz bands. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased by calling through Yoshi's Web site at www.yoshis.com. Details: 510-238-9200.

Ballot propositions discussed

The Richmond Chapter of the League of Women Voters will host a discussion of the propositions on the ballot, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2002, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the third-floor conference room of the Sumnerville Retirement Residence (formerly called El Cerrito Royale) 6510 Gladys Ave. at the corner of Lexington, El Cerrito. All are welcome. Questions: Joan Bartulovich 510-232-1136.

Musing over music

The Rhythm & Muse open mic series features pianist/poet Rudi Mwongozi, with sign-ups at 6:30 p.m. and readings 7 p.m. on Jan. 26 at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. For more info: 510-527-9753 or 352-8643.

Youths voice concerns

Assemblywoman Dion Aroner will convene policymakers from city councils, school boards, county supervisors and state offices to hear from Bay Area youth at the "Youth and Race: Issues and Solutions" event from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Jan. 26 at the Elihu Harris State Building auditorium, 1515 Clay St., Oakland. Elected representatives will attend youth-led workshops on violence prevention, after-school programs, Books Not Bars, free bus passes and educational resources. Call 510-540-3660.

POLICE REPORTS

Police break up brawl on Key Route

By K. Osborn
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — On the morning of Jan. 8 officers located a yellow '79 Toyota truck on the 1100 block of Neilson Street reported as stolen from Berkeley on Dec. 28. They did not have anyone in custody. The vehicle was towed and the owner, a Utah woman, was notified.

■ Shortly before noon on Jan. 9 a resident on the 800 block of Washington Avenue reported that three people that she knew had come into her house. When she told them to leave they broke her window and fled. Police are investigating.

■ Shortly after noon on Jan. 9 officers broke up a fight involving about 15 people on the 600 block of Key Route Boulevard. There were no arrests and all were sent on their way.

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 9 a 16-year-old Albany boy reported that thieves had stolen his white and black 24-speed KHS bike while it was locked to the bike rack at Albany Pool. There were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 9 a resident on the 500 block of Pomona Avenue reported that thieves had stolen the license plates off his '89 Nissan.

■ On the morning of Jan. 10 a resident on the 1000 block of Kains Avenue reported that during the night thieves stole her gold '88 Toyota Camry from the garage area.

■ On the morning of Jan. 10 a resident on the 800 block of Key Route Boulevard reported that vandals had spilled grease on the steps of her porch. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 12:30 a.m. on Jan. 11 officers stopped a brown Dodge Caravan near Adams Street and Washington Avenue for a traffic violation. They arrested the driver, a 47-year-old Alameda man, when they found in the vehicle items that had been reported as stolen from Berkeley. He was arrested, cited and transported to the marshal's office.

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 11 a business on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that thieves had stolen about 50 cartons of cigarettes from the store, probably during the night. There

were no witnesses.

■ On the evening of Jan. 11 a resident on the 500 block of Curtis Street reported that thieves had broken into his home and stole various items.

■ At about 11 p.m. on Jan. 11 officers performed a walk-through of the Albany Bowl at the request of the management because there was a large crowd that night. While officers were there several fights broke out at the same time. Officers were able to disperse the unruly group except for two men who continued to fight even after being sprayed with pepper spray. One of the combatants fled but officers arrested the other participant, an 18-year-old Richmond man, for fighting.

■ At about 1 a.m. on Jan. 12 officers stopped a black BMW near Washington Avenue and Madison Street for erratic driving. The driver, a 35-year-old San Francisco man, was found to be intoxicated. He failed the field sobriety test and was arrested. He was cited and released with a notice to appear.

■ On the morning of Jan. 12 a resident on the 1000 block of Ordway Street reported that she had been gone for a few days and when she returned she discovered that someone had broken into her home and stole items. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 2 a.m. on Jan. 13 officers stopped a gray '86 Oldsmobile Delta 88 near Solano and Modoc Avenues for speeding. The driver, a 30-year-old Berkeley man, was found to be intoxicated. He failed the field sobriety test and was arrested. He was cited and released with a notice to appear.

■ On the morning of Jan. 13 officers located an orange '84 Toyota Camry on the 500 block of Pierce Street that had been reported as stolen out of Tracy. They did not have anyone in custody. The car was towed and the owner notified.

■ On the morning of Jan. 13 officers stopped a white '90 Pontiac Sunbird near Solano Avenue and Taylor Street for speeding. The driver, a Sacramento man, was found to be driving with a suspended license. He was cited and his car was towed.

■ On the morning of Jan. 13 a resident on the 1100 block of Curtis Street reported that the night thieves broke his burgundy '88 Toyota Camry and stole the in-dash stereo. There were no witnesses.

■ Shortly before noon on Jan. 13 a resident on the 1300 block of Dartmouth Street reported that during the night thieves broke into his garage and stole a bicycle and a propane tank. There were no witnesses.

■ Shortly after noon on Jan. 13 a resident on the 800 block of Solano Avenue reported that during the night vandals had stolen a swastika onto the hood of a green Isuzu. Upon investigating the area officers discovered seven other cars on the block that had similar damage. There were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 13 a resident on the 600 block of Adams Street reported that thieves had stolen the bike from his scooter.

■ At about 2:30 a.m. on Jan. 14 officers contacted the owner of a green '96 Subaru on the 1100 block of Curtis Street appeared to have been broken into. The car had indeed been entered and the stereo stolen. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Jan. 14 a resident on the 700 block of Santa Fe Avenue reported that during the night thieves stole her white '90 Volvo. There were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 14 a resident on the 800 block of Carmel Avenue reported that during the night thieves had stolen her unlocked truck. She stole shoes from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ During the week of Jan. 14 officers towed three vehicles suspended to nine false alarms, responded to six lost or dead animals, assisted three people who were locked out of house or car and responded to two reports of barking dogs, the domestic arena officers responded to one domestic disturbance, 17 civil disturbances and 13 assists. Officers stopped 18 and/or pedestrians issuing citations and 36 warnings, fighter/paramedics responded to 13 medical emergencies.

ALBANY CHAMBER NOTES

New members swell group's ranks

By James Carter

NEWS FLASH! A middle-aged man in a hat recklessly raced into the middle of Solano Avenue Tuesday, a freshly minted newspaper in hand. His eyes wide, he paused and announced in a loud voice to the people gathered around: "They are accepting applications at the Albany Chamber today!"

There was a gush of "Ohhs," and "Ahhs" followed by instant motion, merchants and restaurateurs racing toward 1108 Solano, jockeying for a position in a line that quickly snaked around the block.

They were earnest yet waited patiently in a cold and bitter rain, carefully guarding their applications.

"Next!" a voice cried, and there was a rustle in the crowd, the multitudes gazing with envy as a merchant stepped through the portal leading to a better life and a brighter future at the Albany Chamber of Commerce.

One man in a bowler hat and raincoat turned to a young woman, two little girls beside her, their hair perfectly combed, eyes bright, faces clean. "There's room for all of us," he said softly, and the woman and her two daughters smiled, reassured by his words.

Then, suddenly, the writer awoke from the dream, faced a computer screen, and began to write fact not fiction (though there is room for everyone at the Albany Chamber).

■ ■ ■

Four new members have joined the past two weeks, each of them adding yet another dimension to our chamber, just now beginning a membership drive, one we hope will increase our membership by triple digits.

■ Suzanne Arca Landscaping is bound to add form and figure to our fair city. This remarkable landscaping firm is known for specializing in native gardens, magically transforming simple yards and open space into serene botanical delights. Suzanne Arca Landscaping specializes in creating natural settings, utilizing plants that require little upkeep and care. But what Suzanne enjoys most is catering to her clients wants and

needs. She is a genius with all species of plants, whatever they may be, and has 22 years experience in architecture and design, construction, and full service landscaping, including commercial jobs. A builder and contractor as well as a creative gardener, you can reach Suzanne Arca at 510-558-0636, or arca_design@earthlink.net.

■ Gina's Pizza, tucked away on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue, has pleased many a palette over the years, and new owner and Chamber member Mike Furman wants to continue that tradition and add a few new special touches as well. Mike, who was one of the creators of Cybelle's Pizza, points with pride to Gina's homemade bread, baked daily, seven days a week. But that is just the beginning. In addition to gourmet pizzas, try the linguine del paese, with tomato, fresh basil, and garlic, or penne rose-marino, pasta served with chicken sautéed in wine, garlic, and fresh rosemary. Gina's has a full salad menu, with mouth-watering combinations like fresh garden greens with smoked chicken, walnuts, gorgonzola and roasted red peppers. And Gina's delivers — for free! Call 510-524-3824.

■ Page Point adds yet another dimension to the Chamber, Lisa Cain and Aaron Golder two brilliant young web designers who offer a full line of cyberspace service to businesses and individuals. Page Point does academic research for small businesses, large ones, and non-profit organizations — and at very affordable prices. Go to their web site at www.pagepoint.com and take a look for yourself. The partners, who live and work in Kensington, decided to join the chamber because, in Lisa's words, "We're attracted by the charm and energy of Albany. There's such a positive atmosphere here, and we can sense revival and renaissance." Page Point is offering a special "get on the web" deal for Albany Chamber members: For just \$500, Page Point will develop three pages for you, register your domain name and host your site for three months. For

\$1,000, they will develop a "grow your business" site, five pages, one on-line form, register your domain name and host your site for six months. For more information: 510-558-1534.

■ Our fourth new member is Clay Pot Seafood House, a wonderful restaurant that specializes in Shanghai-style seafood. Never tried it? You've got to go there. Located at 809 San Pablo Avenue, Claypot is owned and managed by Jason Xie and Sarah Chao, who are two of the nicest folks you'll ever meet. While specializing in Shanghai-style food — one of the only restaurants in the East Bay to do so — Clay Pot also features Szechuan and Mandarin styles. Try their fresh steamed fish with ginger and scallions, soy sauce and other secret ingredients, or eight-treasure bean curd clay pot (cooked in a wonderful ceramic pot), Hunan general chicken, or Honey Walnut Prawns. There's an amazing story about this restaurant. The chef was Jason's best friend in China. He was recruited as head chef by a top-notch hotel in Norway years ago, but the two friends stayed in touch. Then, when Jason and Sarah opened Claypot five years ago, they contacted their old friend and master chef, who decided to come to California. Open seven days a week, you can reach Clay Pot at 510-559-8976.

E-mail James Carter at albany-chamber@bigplanet.com.

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MARK DUFRENE/TIMES FILE 1996

He delivered milk of kindness

Customers and family recall El Cerrito native Frank Parella, 78, West County's last milkman, as caring and trustworthy

By Tom Lochner
STAFF WRITER

Pinole — Some 600 people, including many of Frank Parella's generations of customers, attended his funeral Jan. 5 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. It was an emotional tribute to a man who parlayed what could have been a humdrum job into a good life that touched thousands during a career of more than half a century.

The last of the area's old-fashioned, home-delivery milkmen, Frank the Fresh Milkman died Jan. 5 at St. Joseph's. He was 78 and had lived in Pinole for 39 years.

He was born into a dairy family and his professional relationship with milk began early. "When my grandparents bought their house in El Cerrito, the house came with cows," said Parella's son Matt of Pinole. "So I milked the family cows."

The family owned about 14 acres in Tara Hills, near the base of Mount Diablo. Frank worked there in his teens, milking, bottling and delivering. His parents gave up Parella's Dairy after World War II and Frank went to work for Golden State before starting his own business, Frank's Home Dairy, in El Cerrito 52 years ago.

Parella retired in 1996 when the supplier, the Royal Jersey Bottling Plant of El Sobrante, closed. By then his customer base extended from Hercules to Berkeley.

That's all he ever did, deliver milk, said Matt Parella. "That's what he did. He raised seven kids. And he had the 49ers. Those were his major things."

Parella operated as a self-employed milkman, buying the milk from the Royal Jersey and delivering door-to-door.

There's nothing like cold milk in a bottle," said longtime customer Sue D'Alonzo, who remembered it from her childhood in Chicago and these days buys milk "in plastic — yech!" at the supermarket.

But mostly, she said, her family bought from Parella "because he was Frank."

He was an awesome guy," D'Alonzo said. "The milk was just a small part of it."

For all the convenience and taste he provided to his customers, Parella managed to sell at a good price: more or less what the stores charged, said his wife. D'Alonzo remembered getting monthly bills of about \$25 for four quarts twice a week, the equivalent of almost nine gallons a month.

D'Alonzo's husband, Peter, had much in common with Parella. "They'd trade football stories, and they'd be screaming in the driveway, with their arms going," Sue D'Alonzo said. "They're both very loud Italians."

Yet Parella did many things quietly.

"He was unsung for his years of work at the (Richmond Souper Center) soup kitchen, (and) his annual Christmas parties to bring some joy to kids that were in for no Christmas that year," his son-in-law John Johnson of Benicia remembered in a eulogy. "And if you were down on your luck and on his route, you probably weren't going to see a bill."

Parella loved cats and took in abandoned kittens by the litter.

"He always said he ran a cat house, he had so many cats," said his wife. "He started out with one cat and ended up with a batch of new ones; he thought it was a male cat."

Many of Parella's longtime customers have fond memories of him from when they were children.

"If we were home in the mornings, he would come in to talk to us," said Kathie Thompson of Pinole. "He knew us all by name."

One man who eulogized Parella at his funeral has nine children, remembered Parella's daughter Laura Parella Weeks.

"My dad was there for all their births," said Weeks, of Pinole.

Parella's customers trusted him as they would a family member. When they weren't home, Parella brought the milk inside instead of leaving it on the doorstep.

"He'd put it right in the refrigerator for me," said longtime customer Bernice Royer, 90, of Pinole.

So many of his customers left him their keys, Parella told the Times in 1996, that "When they get locked out of the house, they call me."

Parella is survived by his wife of 50 years, Joanne; sons Mick, Mitchell, Matt and Marc; daughters Laura Parella Weeks, Lynne Parella Johnson and Lisa Parella Crenshaw; sisters Theresa Parella and RoseAnn Kase; and 12 grandchildren.

Kim Clark is Albany Police's second woman officer

ALERT ALBANIANS have noticed a woman officer amongst the male officers in the city's police cars. Her name is Kim Clark, and she is the second female patrol officer in the history of the city.

Clark is getting to know the town and being instructed in the ways and procedures of the local department by Officer John Geissberger. Voted department Officer of the Year in 2000, Geissberger often tops the list for ticketing speeders and other moving violators.

The city's first woman patrol officer was Rene Boyes, who was hired in 1986. She retired in 1994 after almost 20 years in police work in Albany and elsewhere. While in the APD she had various assignments including uniformed patrol, detective, field training officer, and bicycle officer. She is now married to Albany Police Chief Larry Murdo.

The new officer, Kim Clark, was born in Ventura in 1969 and grew up in Alturas. She was the daughter of a California Highway Patrol officer who died when she was 17. Clark said she was always fascinated by his police scanner, liked the TV shows "CHiPs" and "Adam 12," and in high school wanted to be a police officer.

In 1993 Clark was graduated from Shasta College in Redding with a liberal arts degree. She married and has two children, Kami, 6, and Kaci, 4. While working as a legal secretary in a law office, Clark attended Napa Valley College and earned a paralegal certificate. She then went to work for the Napa Sheriff's Department as a secretary in the investigations department.

But the urge to be a police officer persisted, and the sheriff's department sponsored her for training in the Napa Valley Police Academy on the Napa Valley College campus. Here she took a class in constitutional law from Murdo, who interested her in applying for a position on the APD.

Good police recruits have been scarce in recent times, and Murdo has found his constitutional law class a well-stocked pool of them from which he has drawn many of the best and brightest, including Geissberger. The chief says his department has no quotas of any kind and simply hires the most qualified people available.

Clark's training is "progressing admirably" in all aspects of police work, according to Murdo. When her training is complete in several months, she will be on "solo patrol." At some time she may be assigned to the night shift and could go



DAVE GREER
Man About Town



Boyes



Clark

under cover as did Rene Boyes.

"I love working in investigations," Clark said. And in Albany she will have a chance to do so as all officers are rotated through that department. Currently it is headed up by Lt. Bill Palmieri, assisted by Sgt. Bob Christianson with David Bettencourt as the rotating officer.

Other women currently with the APD are as follows: Karen Alvarez, who has police powers and various duties including those in the warrant division. Parking Enforcement Officers Vivian Kuhl and Nancy Carnahan. The latter also works as a communications clerk or dispatcher with Sharral Kane, Martha King, and Terri Lopez. Longtime Reserve Officer Darla Majors will soon join them while retaining her position on the reserve.

FINAL FLIGHT: I wonder if the story a few weeks ago about the little plane that took off by itself for one last, grand flight struck anybody else as novel, perhaps a bit sad, and maybe something more. It was of course sad for the owner who cranked the propeller of his 1946 Aeronca Champ only to find it taking off before he could climb in, but I don't mean that.

To understand what I do mean, you have to share my rather unusual sense that the distinction between the animate and the inanimate is not as definitive as it appears. And if the object involved is one we have loved, perhaps made ourselves or owned a long time, the line between it and us may on rare occasions blur. Something of ourselves seems to enter into things so they become... more animate.

A case in point: The 1932 Ford roadster I owned in high school and college. It was a beautiful thing, light as a butterfly and jumpy as a jackrabbit, having Ford's first V-8 engine.

With its top down, it carried me and my blond girl friend to

the beaches of summer; it took us through the bright, blowing leaves of fall; and in winter the beams from its big eyes lit the snowflakes falling on country roads. I loved that car, and it never let me down.

And I used to drink with the old ragtop: pour a shot into me and one into its radiator. That was after we got home, of course. But then the world turned and I had to sell it for \$150. I lost a friend when I lost that old Ford. And it hasn't helped to find that as the ideal hop-up year and body type it would be worth well over 20 grand today.

I don't know whether the fellow who owned the '46 Aeronca ever drank with it or not, but I'll bet he loved the old bird. My theory is it knew that what with metal fatigue and other infirmities of age that it could no longer carry its owner safely.

So when it saw the chance, it took off on the solo flight it had always wanted to take. It climbed to 10,000 feet and soared over beautiful woods and mountains for a couple of hours before finding a final resting place in a remote canyon near Lake Berryessa. Would that we too could end our days at a time and place of our own choosing and in such glorious freedom.

Naturally, more mundane mechanical explanations of why the aged Aeronca took off alone were advanced. But none tell us why an aircraft of a type supposedly prone to doing so had not done it in the previous 55 years. Anyhow, I like my theory better, and as Jake Barnes says at the end of Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises," "Isn't it pretty to think so?"

TOWER OF BABEL: At the rate media people are degrading the English language these days, we may be not able to understand each other much longer. Or I suppose we could fall back on Spanish or one of the other foreign languages gaining acceptance in an increasingly multicultural society. This might work until that one went the way of the mother tongue.

The latest misuse of a common word I have noted is that of "overtake." A rash of this broke out after the hijacking of four passenger planes on Sept. 11. The National Broadcasting Company's Katie Couric led the charge by announcing that the crews of the planes had been "overtaken" by terrorists.

I had a vision of a footrace

in the aisle of the aircraft with the terrorists pursuing and overtaking the crews. What perky little Katie meant to say was that the terrorists had "overpowered" or "overcome" the flight personnel. At first I assumed that this misuse of a common verb was unique to Couric, but soon I heard other media types making the same error. I began to feel that I was in some kind of sci-fi movie when a man I talked to on the street used "overtake" in the same context.

How to malapropisms like this metastasize throughout the language so quickly? As a former high school teacher I know incorrect usage drives out correct usage just as bad money drives out good money, but I have never been able to figure out why this is true. Perhaps it is just that people want to be a part of any trend that comes along and fear being considered behind the times. Well, if you know something I don't about this, please enlighten me.

More recently, I heard Couric say the passengers of one plane had "overcome" the terrorists, so somebody must have set her straight. But the genie is out of the bottle now. Witness this Jan. 6 Associated Press story:

"Buildings whose owners either fail to make needed improvements in their rental units or neglect paying utility bills are often overtaken by the city to ensure compliance with the city's code enforcement program."

How's that again? From the context of the story you can tell the writer meant that the city had "taken over" the buildings containing the rental units. But he apparently decided to fall in line with the latest linguistic fad by reversing the order of the words.

One would assume that a professional writing for a major news service had a better grasp of the language than an anchor woman like Couric, even if she does have cute legs and does earn up to millions of dollars a year. But don't bet any money on that assumption.

It appears the time has past when people in the business of communicating are expected to know the linguistic tools of their trade just as other workmen must know theirs. It is ironic that the people who should be preserving the clear, precise, and beautiful language which they inherited appreciate it so little that they have become the primary agents of its erosion.

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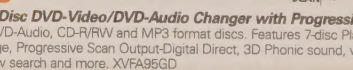
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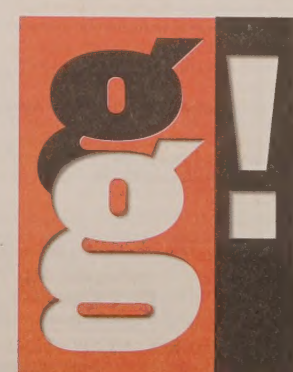
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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Goal-reaching school

PEOPLE WHO GREW UP 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean haven't seen it. They live a few hours' drive from mountains, but have never played in snow. Youths have had no one to take them. Their neighborhood, a few square blocks, is the world. In adulthood, they see no reason to go; it's not what they know or do. But some grow up and realize it wasn't just oceans and mountains they had missed, but opportunities, particularly educational ones, had passed them by.

A nonprofit organization in Berkeley, New American Foundation, trains people who previously lacked learning opportunities regarding entrepreneurship. The three-year program teaches budgeting, asset building, investing and how to increase equity.

It's exactly what underprivileged, undereducated people who grew up not knowing the choices available to them need once they realize they can dream bigger than their neighborhood. This program, however, is for immigrants.

It sounds like a great program, and it's exactly what many immigrants need. Many come to the United States with the seeds of dreams, but they often lack the cultural or economic knowledge to make their dreams grow.

They often end up in jobs that don't use their skills. They often find work that pays well by their old standards but will only allow them to get by here. It's a new country and a different world — just as it is for the Americans who learn that there are a lot of possibilities for success outside the neighborhood where they grew up.

Many classes, books, etc., are available that offer this kind of help. But when you've come from such a sheltered existence finding help and information can be as difficult as starting a business.

New American Foundation actually teaches those type of research skills. But the organization doesn't wait for people to find them. It seeks out people it thinks would be a good fit for its program, people who are serious about their goals and already working toward them, people who are serious about staying in the United States.

New American Foundation is a great program and helps the economy of peoples and the nation. It needs a sister program that helps Americans overcome their limited knowledge of how to improve their situations in their own country.

Olympic spirit shines as torch passes by

Patriotism is at an all-time high, and the Winter Olympics starting next month in Salt Lake City only heightens the feeling of pride for our athletes and the nation.

Americans came together in a united spirit of compassion, caring and concern after Sept. 11, working to help in whatever way they were needed. Hands reached out to aid the injured, to feed the rescue workers, to donate blood, to contribute money to growing funds for the victims.

Flags were brought out of garages, closets and boxes, where they had been stored between holidays, to find almost permanent places on the fronts of homes and office buildings, in windows and on garage doors.

The patriot spirit swelled in this country as we regrouped after tragedy. And the countries of the world rallied around us: in case after case, American citizens in foreign countries found solace and comfort in dozens of languages.

In slightly more than 20 days, the representatives of those countries, and many more, will be coming to Utah to rejoice in the shared camaraderie that is the Olympic Games.

During the opening ceremonies, the Olympic flame will be carried into the stadium and used to light a giant cauldron in one of the most dramatic moments of the ceremony.

And while athletes and visitors witness the ceremony firsthand, area residents will have the opportunity to watch as their family members, friends and neighbors participate in the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay.

In its serpentine route through most of the United States, the same flame that began on Mount Olympus in Greece is bringing the American people together to share in a bit of the Olympic experience. The same flame that has already passed through thousands of hands on its journey is coming through Piedmont and Oakland on Friday before the final stretch run.

So go out this afternoon to the nearest route of the Olympic torch that begins at Frank Ogawa Plaza and ends in Jack London Square. Watch the flame travel down Lakeside Drive and Grand Avenue, then cut through Piedmont on Linda Avenue. Watch it head down Piedmont Avenue and Pleasant Valley Avenue until ultimately working its way to Jack London Square — and cheer on those who were chosen to pass the flame.

But the spirit of the Olympics isn't just patriotism: it's based in peace. It's the opportunity for the people of the world to gather in one place as friendly competitors, not as enemies. While you are waving your flag, remember to cheer on the Olympic spirit that endures.

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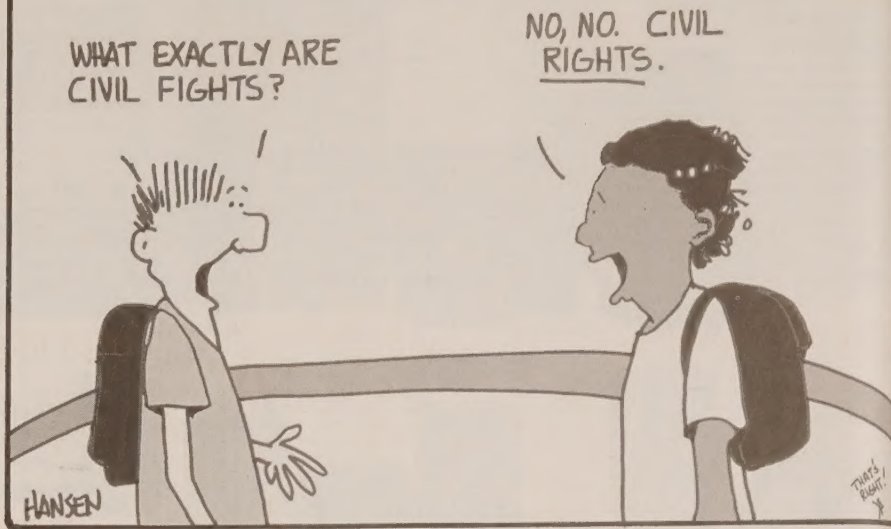
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Potter's not a Wiccan

As a Christian wife, I am in a position to objectively observe my Wiccan husband for any possible resemblance to Harry Potter.

I must report that I have never seen him fly on a broomstick, cloak himself in invisibility, cause chess pieces to shatter each other, or do any of the other things Harry Potter can do. He does not receive owl mail, nor eat candy that moves and, while he has served me candlelight dinners on several occasions, the candles never floated above us.

Nor did I see Harry Potter do anything distinctive of Wiccans in the movie — he never attended circle, observed their holy days, prayed their prayers, worshipped their deities, or discussed their ethical principles, such as the Wiccan Rede or the Fourfold Law.

Young Mr. Potter shows no more evidence of being a Wiccan than he does of being a Christian. I must conclude that Wiccans live in a different universe from Harry Potter and that they are Muggles like the rest of us. People who say otherwise are guilty of false advertising, in making Wicca look a whole lot more enticing than it is.

Dolores J. Nurss
El Cerrito

Make better use of lot

From the wording of an article in last week's Journal about the recent Fairmount Avenue public design workshop, one could assume that I advocated that a parking garage be built on the BART parking lot. Actually someone else suggested that. What I said at the workshop is that if a garage was built, it should be lined on the street side with a mixed-use shopfront exterior so as to completely disguise it. I mentioned the parking garage hidden within the Broadway Pointe development in downtown Walnut Creek as an example.

I personally feel that mixed-use housing and/or office development should also be considered for the site—or a combination of such uses with a parking garage. If Fairmount is to be a truly pedestrian-oriented main street, then we need street-oriented development to occur on the BART parking lot.

Steve Price
El Cerrito

A great proposal

I understand that operators of Oakland's Parkway Theater are contemplating expanding and restoring the old Cerrito Theatre inside the old Kiefer's Furniture Store on San Pablo Avenue in

El Cerrito.

I support the project unconditionally and urge the city's approval of any funding necessary to achieve a successful theater at this location.

The proposal resolves a number of problems. First and foremost, it adds a necessary and vital element to night life in El Cerrito, which is sorely lacking. This additional entertainment use will reinforce and enhance pedestrian and street life for surrounding businesses, such as restaurants, stores, etc., In fact, there is already lots of existing parking and access to public transportation for a small theater at this location. Such a project could easily become the focus of a vibrant entertainment complex.

A theater would preserve the existing structure (recycling buildings makes environmental sense) as well as the wonderful art deco murals (restoring artistic endeavors adds to the cultural and historical ambience of a city).

The very visible public location (close to BART and the new shopping center) is perfect for becoming a kind of cultural gateway to the city and transforming the neighborhood. One can easily envision a beautiful neon marquee (art deco, of course) that identifies the area. Think of the Elmwood in Berkeley or the Grand Lake Theatre in Oakland.

Such a theater would be a much nicer association for the residents than the current liquor store is.

Jerri Holan
Albany

Woeful highway tale

It is misleading and wrong to describe the sales tax on motor fuel as a gas tax.

The gas tax is a specific amount collected per gallon. It is the price motorists pay to drive. The resulting revenue is used to build and maintain highways. Under the California constitution, it can be used for no other purpose.

The deplorable condition of our streets and highways shows that gas tax revenue has been insufficient. The highway enterprise is bankrupt. Additional subsidies from sales taxes, the general fund, and private capital have not saved it.

Proposition 42 concerns the sales tax on motor fuel. This is entirely different from the gas tax. It is not a price charged for use but a sales tax such as on any other commodity. It belongs in the general fund. Dedicating it to transportation means taking money that is needed for education, health care, parks, emergency services, social services, and a host of other government activities.

We do not dedicate the sales tax on whiskey to subsidize bars. Why take the sales tax on motor fuel to subsidize high-

ways?

The cure for what ails California transportation is to charge motorists the full costs of serving them.

Robert R. Piper
Berkeley

Piper is a past director of transportation for the City of Berkeley.

Misses Clinton

If one believes President George W. Bush, 2002 will bring economic recovery, even a measure of prosperity. But the facts don't bear out the president's optimism.

Big business, big insurance, cattle barons, including the Bush family, will do well enough. But the airplane industry, the hotel industry, the cruise industry are in the doldrums. So, too, is retail trade. Moreover, unemployment, especially among professional personnel in all categories is setting records.

Finally, the achievements of the Clinton administration in regulating insurance companies, protecting an endangered environment, providing vital federal funds to state and local governments for education, and eliminating a federal deficit, while providing adequately for the needs of all ages and ethnic groups, dramatize the shortcomings of G.W. Bush et al.

Daniel K. Freudenthal
El Cerrito

A pleasing design

As a West Berkeley resident and past Ocean View "meddler" in city affairs, I want to thank Berkeley for its investment of considerable effort and expense in providing a pedestrian overcrossing of Interstate 80, just south of University Avenue.

My thanks include Mayor Shirley Dean, the City Council, the Planning Department, various commissioners, interested residents and taxpayers who pushed for a quality bridge.

This bridge, now nearing completion, is a substantial mitigation for the injury to the Ocean View neighborhood when the railroad and freeway conspired to rob us of our access to the beach and the Bay.

I applaud the designers for a grand and ample bridge which is pleasing to the eye rather than an imposition.

To those thinking Berkeley spent too much money, I say it is always better to do something well, for it will continue to repay us for years.

There is still much to do, such as land acquisitions, the restoration of the beach and lots of effort to keep zealots from overdeveloping the land. But this piece of infrastructure sets a new, high standard for what is to follow — the Shoreline Park.

Curtis Manning
Berkeley

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THE JOURNAL

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

This week's column comes in on little cat feet

If you could cross man with cat, it would improve man and deteriorate the cat." — Mark Twain

WHENEVER I MEET people on the street, they always ask the same two questions:

1. How come I never write about my cat Phoebe anymore?
2. How come she isn't in the picture anymore?

Let me answer the second first. A few years ago, there was an editor here who absolutely hated cats. The first thing he said to me when he was over was, "The cat's picture has got to go."

He was stunned by the reply with which I agreed. I probably earned a few brownie points for being so cooperative. Little did he know that I had already promised Phoebe the thing months before. The photo session had been so dramatic, she was freaked out by the flashes.

Phoebe, you see, was a wild cat. She was born in the wild.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

And although she's as sweet as can be, she's never quite lost that feral wariness.

After 5-1/2 years, she's finally decided that I'm not going to eat her; but she's not so sure about the rest of the world. So whenever my friends come over, she hides under the bed. Some of them don't even believe I actually have a cat; they refer to her as "the alleged cat."

So you can imagine how frightening it was when a photographer came over with all this scary equipment that made scary noises and flashes. I was able to grab her and hold on for a couple of pictures until she shredded the skin on my arms to julienne and disappeared under the bed again.

That's when I promised her, "Never again."

As for the first question — how come I don't write about her? — the answer is simple: It's because I can't do it as well as Jon Carroll. He's the king of the cat column writers, and anything I tried would pale in comparison.

The difference is that I write from the point of view of the cat owner, but he writes from the point of view of the cat. And it's all the difference in the world.

So why am I breaking my own rule and writing about cats today? To tell the truth, it's because next week will be the sixth anniversary of the death of my first cat, Eliza Doolittle. And I still miss her.

Don't get me wrong; Phoebe is a most worthy successor. I wish she weren't so afraid of things; but otherwise, she's the perfect cat — snuggly and affectionate and absolutely ruth-

less about getting her own way. And she's the least hassle of any cat I've ever known. She's perfectly happy eating dry food only; in fact, she turns up her nose at wet food. And she never scatters the kitty litter all over the place after she's used the cat box.

Best of all, she never scratches the furniture. She always uses the scratching post instead — about a million times a day.

That's partly my doing. When Eliza was a kitten, I couldn't help laughing when she scratched the couch, because she was so cute.

Big mistake. Not exactly the signal you want to send to an impressionable kitten. The result was predictable: Before she was done, Eliza had reduced most of my furniture to tatters.

So when I adopted Phoebe, I'd learned my lesson. I discouraged her from scratching the couch. And every time she used the scratching post, I rewarded her with her favorite

kitty treat. It didn't take long for her to get the message.

Of course, it was a slightly different message from the one I'd intended. You see, Phoebe thinks she has trained me. To her, using the scratching post means, "It's time for another treat, Dad." If I'm a few seconds late with the kitty treat, she looks at me as if I were an idiot. I can see those little wheels turning: "What's your problem, dummy? Didn't you get my signal?"

As a result, she's already gone through two scratching posts. But who cares? They're a lot cheaper to replace than couches.

But, as I said, I still miss Eliza. She was my first, and she'll always be the love of my life (four-footed version, that is).

I also miss Nelly, the kitten I adopted after Eliza died. Nelly was killed by my neighbor's dogs — not really their fault, I hasten to add — when she was only nine months old. And I'm

still saddened by what might have been.

I originally got Phoebe to be a playmate for Nelly, and they got along famously until Nelly was killed.

Phoebe mourned bitterly for about 15 or 20 seconds. Then the light bulb went "Click!" over her head, and I saw those little wheels turning again. "This is great!" I could see her thinking. "I get the whole place all to myself!"

Since then, she's made it extremely clear, as only a cat can, that there are to be no more cats.

Personally, I'd prefer to adopt another one. I miss hearing the clumpy-clump-clump of baby elephant feet late at night as they chase each other across the floor. But it's not my call; it's hers.

It's her house, after all. She spends a lot more time living in it than I do. So I'm down to one cat for the foreseeable future — which should be quite a while, since she's as healthy as a horse (knock on wood) and has the world's greatest vet: Dr. Alan Shiro of Berkeley Dog & Cat Hospital.

Oops! Gotta run. She's using the scratching post again, and you know what that means.

E-mail Martin Snapp at catman@california.com or call him at 510-273-9039.

The scope on the latest staff developments at Peralta Community College

RONALD J. TEMPLE gets this way, Cornel West, celebrated philosopher and African American studies professor, may soon join the faculty of the Peralta Community College District.

Last weekend, the Peralta Chancellor heard a National Public Radio piece about West's work with Harvard University President Lawrence Summers. Summers had reportedly questioned West's support for a post-Al Sharpton presidential endorsement and criticized his recent release of a rap-flavored CD, "Riches of My Culture."

In the NPR story, West expressed indifference toward his prestigious employer, and he happily take his act to other school. "My project has always been the same for the last 27 years," West told me. "I could be at Suffolk Community College, I could be at Harvard, I could be at Union College, I could be at Prince-



MATTHEW GOLDSTEIN
Peralta Roundup

Alameda, Laney College, Merritt College, or Vista Community College.

After all, reasoned Temple, West has family in the greater Bay Area. Plus, the Peralta Colleges stood at the vanguard of the 1960's black power movement, the political force that gave rise to the development of African-American studies as an academic discipline.

Temple wrote the author of "Race Matters" and "The American Evasion of Philosophy" at his Harvard offices to offer him a job at Peralta. West, believed to be weighing offers from Harvard's Ivy League sisters and a number of other high-profile institutions, has yet to respond. "Dr. West would make a fine

addition to our outstanding faculty," Temple said. "I firmly believe he would find our richly diverse culture and exciting intellectual atmosphere much to his liking."

The question now: Do we put West in Philosophy or African-American Studies?

The PCCD Board of Trustees made some news of its own last month when it named Brenda Knight its new president. Knight took over from Alona Clifton, whose two-year term expired at the close of 2001.

Knight, a longtime Oakland Unified School District employee, is now president of two higher-ed organizations. Last year, Knight became the first African-American woman tapped to lead the American Association of Community College Trustees, a nation-wide group. Knight's one-year term begins in September.

But here's the real story: Knight's a college student herself. The Peralta grad is now studying for her first B.A. at

UC Berkeley. Tip: Don't bother trying to get on President Knight's calendar during finals week.

Laney's Nick Kyriakopodi, chair of the environmental control technology department, recently collected a nice little tip of his own. The popular leader of the program formerly known as HVAC nabbed a PG&E Outstanding Program Award, an honor worth a cool \$500 to Kyriakopodi and his devoted students.

Down the hall from the ECT lab, Machine Technology — an-

other of Laney's premier vocational programs — shifted into high gear last semester when it acquired an electronic CNC milling machine. The high-tech rig so pleased vocational ed dean Bill Leal that he took out ads at local movie theaters to show it off.

Preview the machine shop's gleaming new addition in slides now showing at the UA Cinemas in Berkeley and Emeryville.

In downtown Berkeley, Vista

See XXXXXXX, Page A10

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EL CERRITO PTA NEWS

Bayside Council of PTAs

Feb. 4, Meeting - 7 p.m. in the faculty room at Pinole Middle School. Agenda items include a presentation from the East Bay Center for Performing Arts, and information on Measures M and D, and how to update your by-laws.

Membership dues payments should be sent now to Michele Jawad, Bayside Membership Chair, 7717 Eureka Ave., El Cerrito 94530.

Annual Reports, current approved budgets, tax and workman's comp forms (two copies each) should be forwarded to Melita Agbabiaka, Bayside Treasurer, 7628 Potrero Ave., El Cerrito, 94530. Insurance payments are \$153.

Adams Middle School

Join the PTA for \$7 per member. Send your payment of \$7 per member and include the member's name, address, phone number, student's name, along with the e-mail address. Send in your membership to Adams PTA, 5000 Patterson Circle, Richmond, CA 94805.

Castro Elementary

Fundraisers: Castro is enrolled in eScrip (ID#137627554), Albertson's, Target, and SchoolPop fundraising programs. Call Peggy Wilcox at 510-236-0761 to find out how you can benefit Castro when you shop.

Jan. 21, Join us in the Martin Luther King Day parade. Assemble at 9:30 a.m. in the DMV parking lot off Manila. We'll end up at the Community Center to view student and community King Day celebration projects.

El Cerrito High

Jan. 31, Music Parents Meeting - 7:30 PM in the Band Room. All parents of students who are in any of our bands, choirs or orchestra are encouraged to attend.

GAUCHO CARDS: The Music Dept is selling Gaucho Cards to help support the 5 different bands, Orchestra and Choir at ECHS - \$10. These cards give the owner discounts at various stores and restaurants in our community. To purchase one contact an

ECHS music student OR call 510-524-9714 and leave a message.

NEW SCRIP SALES: El Cerrito High School PTSA is enrolled in the eScrip program. Our group ID is 5221087

Keep informed: Join the ECHS e-mail forum. To sign up, please e-mail Joann Steck-Bayat at jsbayat@home.com.

Portola Middle School

Teen Center - Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Fee - \$6 drop in or \$50 monthly. Great activities, trips and special events. Call 510-215-4370 for more information.

E-mail forum - School information and meeting notices direct to your e-mail box. Send your e-mail address and request to be on the mail list to Kathy Travlos travlos@dnal.com.

Items? Call Linda Takimoto at 510-237-6183 or e-mail: ltakimoto@yahoo.com

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Molly Mitchell at mmm1123@aol.com Feb. 4, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Library

Feb. 7, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conference Room

SCRIP Orders: Call Edna Shipley at 527-0745 or e-mail Edna at ednaming@aol.com

Albany Middle School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at ltopm@earthlink.net

SCRIP Orders: Call Edna Shipley at 527-0745 or e-mail Edna at ednaming@aol.com. Jan. 23, Parent Education Evening featuring Dror Matalan, "Computers: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. How can we help our kids use them well?", 7:15 p.m., AMS Library

REMINER: Save and turn in General

Mills boxtops for education to office.

Cornell Elementary School

SCRIP Orders: Call Mark Privett 528-2082 or e-mail Mark at privest@pacbell.net

Marin Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Tree Stuber at marinestree@aol.com

SCRIP Orders: Call Helene Class at 526-4902 or e-mail Helene at h.class@att.net

SCRIP for sale in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m.

and Monday and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

REMINER: Save and turn in General

Mills boxtops for education to office.

RECYCLE used computer printer cartridges from your home or office. Look

for bins in the library.

AUSD Board of Education

Jan. 22, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

Jan. 21, Martin Luther King Junior

NO SCHOOL

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IN BRIEF

Hear information on ferry service

The Berkeley Ferry Committee (BFC) and the Friends of the Albany Ferry (FAF) will be hosting an informational presentation by the Water Transit Authority (WTA) about the progress of the future Berkeley/Albany ferry line.

The presentation will take place from noon-1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, in the Edith Stone Room at the Albany Public Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany.

The WTA will be discussing the current progress of the proposed ferry line, the planning process they are undertaking, op-

portunities for public support and input, how ferries are an environmentally friendly mode of public transportation, and why ferries are a good alternative for Bay Area commuters in the East Bay.

Please call 510-525-1743 or 510-559-9119 for more information about BFC or FAF.

Contra Costa Women's Hall of Fame nominations

The deadline for nominations for Contra Costa County Commission on Women's 2002 Women's Hall of Fame Awards

has been extended to Jan. 31.

Nominees are sought in six categories: showing leadership, creating community, preserving the environment, improving health care, contributing to the arts, and showing innovation in technology.

Additional information can be found on the organization's Web site at www.womenscommission.com, click on what's new. Nominations forms may also be obtained by contacting Linda Douglas at 925-370-5149.

The honorees will be introduced at the 5th Annual Awards dinner in March. The Commission is appointed and overseen by the County Board of Supervisors.

Albany Preschool application period

Fall 2002 registration for Albany Preschool will take place from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26, at the preschool, 850 Masonic Ave. Applications will be taken for the morning and afternoon programs.

The programs are for children who will be at least 3 years old by Dec. 2, 2002. Applications will be reviewed in the order received, with priority given to Albany residents. There is a \$25 non-refundable application fee to be paid at the time of registration.

Early application is recom-

mended, as openings are limited. For more information, contact the preschool at 510-527-6403.

Talk on 'Setting Limits with Children'

The Cornell Elementary School PTA Parent Education Committee is hosting an evening with social worker Leah Statman that will discuss the positive and negative aspects of permissive, authoritarian, and respectful parenting. It will also look at different methods for setting limits.

The talk is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 13, in the Cornell multipurpose room (the entrance is from Cornell Avenue,

between Solano and Mar-

enues).

Statman combines her ground in social work with personal experience as a mother of three, to create a effective, respectful method of parenting. She has led parent classes, workshops, and groups for more than 10 years.

Free childcare will be provided.

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SCHOOLS 2002



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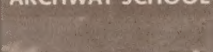
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Fourth-grader has uncanny connection with Civil War

NILS SKUDRA IS convinced that he lived in a former life. The life he recognizes and feels comfortable in is "when he was a soldier during the Civil War."

His knowledge about and understanding of the Civil War is so great that some people have talked with him and he might, just might be Nils Vallis Vytautas Skudra, 9 years old.

His mother, Renee Skudra, is extremely sympathetic to her son's passionate interest in the Civil War, and has bought him many books he has asked her to read to that conflict. She also taken him to some reenactments put on by aficionados, renting costumes for so that he can be part of the reenactment, usually as a drummer boy.

He thinks he was a drummer boy during the Gettysburg battle and through the battle of Vicksburg. Renee speaks of people whom young Nils has spoken with during these reenactments, who were amazed at the breadth of knowledge shown by the youngster.

He tells of an incident when Nils, who edits the Dispatch, a national Civil War journal, interviewed Nils. They spoke for four hours, she says, and Nils told her that he himself, had not known.

He added, "I really think he's during that time."

Renee Skudra, herself, says she doesn't know what to believe about Nils' feeling of reincarnation. "When he was 3 years



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

old, he turned to me and said, 'Mommie, I have lived before. I am sure I lived a really long time ago, and I wore different clothes and I looked different.' And when he put on the Civil War costume she rented for him, he said, 'Damn, it's good to get back in my old clothes.'

At age 9, young Skudras is self-possessed and sure of himself. As we chatted he recited facts and incidents, some of which I had heard of, some of which I had not. Since I am not an expert on the war, that is not surprising. But when I told him about my family having visited several of the battle sites when my husband, a Civil War buff (among many other interests) walked us through the battles, so that they came alive before our eyes, young Nils was able to give me a great deal of further information about those battles.

It is obvious to me that Nils has done a great deal of reading about that period. He often speaks in sentences that sound as if they are exact quotes from books. And that, too, is astounding, since he obviously has an incredible memory. The facts and stories pour from him as we talk.

We were joined by his good friend, a fellow student in the fourth grade at Oceanview



Nils Skudra in the costume Civil War uniform his mother made for him.

School. Jake, a very bright, very polite youngster, loves to listen to his friend talk about the Civil War, and has become quite knowledgeable himself. Nils was a "miracle baby,"

his mother reports. He was born with a heart condition that the doctors said would make him an invalid all his life. They warned he would not be able to use his hands at all. Now he not

only reads about his interests, but draws pictures of the soldiers, the battles, and other aspects of the war that are so good that they have been purchased by other aficionados.

His drawings show a great control of hand movement, and his actions show that he is very active in every way. He has had to have therapy for years, and it is obvious that it has worked. His pictures have excited great interest, and have been shown at reenactments in Fresno and other places, including the Nexus Gallery in Berkeley, where two of them were sold. Two of them also hang in Children's Hospital Oakland.

His favorite hero of the time is Robert E. Lee, and he can follow Lee's battles and advances in detail.

Renee Skudra, herself, is an interesting person. Trained as a lawyer, she got into legal publishing where she worked until she was hurt in an accident. She is the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, and feels she was marked by that tragedy.

Unable to work, she gives her son a great deal of time and effort. Nils Skudra is a fascinating youngster. Bright, talented, but still a child (he said he "wasn't feeling happy," when I came in, and it was a while before he could open up to me. But when he did he chatted at a great rate, showing me books, and quoting facts without looking them up), he is someone I hope to watch grow up. It should be most interesting.

I was delighted when Nils' mother called me, and really enjoyed meeting them both. Please give me Your ideas: interesting people, events, etc. Write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706, or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com.

SCHOOLS 2002

Piedmont Play School Open House for Prospective Students

The Piedmont Play School, a community institution for the last 50 years, will be conducting an **OPEN HOUSE** for prospective new students **January 26th from 10am to 12pm** at the school's location, **401 Hampton Road, Hampton Field, Piedmont**. This informational meeting is designed to give prospective families a feel for the school and ask questions about curriculum, fees and the expectations of parent participation. Parents only are asked to attend, so please plan to come without your children on the 26th.

The Piedmont Play School is a five-day a week program from 9:00am until noon for twenty-two children ages 3 and 4. It is a cooperative program that requires that each family commit two mornings a month assisting in the classroom and attend monthly evening meetings. Families who are considering preschool starting in September 2002 are encouraged to apply. Applications are welcome from any family, however priority for admission is given to those new applicants who have had siblings at the school or who reside in Piedmont. For further information, please contact Gayle Appleby, Membership Chair (510) 654-9741.

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OPEN HOUSE DATES: to reserve a spot call: 510-531-8566

Wednesday	January 15, 2002	7:00 - 9:00 pm
Saturday	January 27, 2002	1:00 - 3:00 pm
Wednesday	February 13, 2002	7:00 - 9:00 pm
Saturday	February 23, 2002	2:00 - 4:00 pm

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Going Beyond What's Expected

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The show should go on at old Cerrito Theatre

The local review of "Moulin Rouge" is in, and the summation probably won't make the cover of the videotape box.

"It was good. It was like a roller coaster. You don't want to be nauseous when you see this thing," said El Cerrito City Councilwoman Gina Brusatori. "But it works. It was clean (as far as nudity), but quite suggestive."

Brusatori, council colleague Kathleen Perka, City Manager Scott Hanin, community developer manager Jill Keimach and other local luminaries such as Lori Dair, Peter Loubal and Steve Price took in the film last week at the Parkway Theater in Oakland, where it was "El Cerrito Night."

They sat at tables with rolling chairs and sampled some of the dining fare — which includes pizza, sandwiches and beer — at the informal and popular movie house. But it wasn't for an evening's entertainment and a promotional show of civic pride — at least outwardly.

The city clerk, in fact, issued a last-minute announcement that the night would constitute a special meeting of the City Council, to meet state requirements in case a majority of council members attended (council women Letitia Moore and Janet Abelson were at a League of California Cities seminar in Sacramento.)

They were there on a fact-finding mission, namely whether a theater such as the Parkway would be desirable for El Cerrito. The operators of the Parkway are interested in the prospect of reopening the long-dormant Cerrito Theatre, a single-screen cinema that has served as a furniture store warehouse for the past 30 years.

While Brusatori found the Parkway's sound system wanting, "the concept would work quite nicely" as a catalyst for attracting patrons not just from El Cerrito, but from nearby cities. That would theoretically translate into the kind of foot traffic that could make the area (including Fairmount Avenue and the Plaza).

The prospect of a small cinema enlivening an area now mostly dormant at night is enticing, to say the least. It would appear to be the city's best hope to date for something resembling a downtown.

Brusatori is enthusiastic but

CHRIS TREADWAY
Around Town

pragmatic about the possibilities.

The reality, she believes, is that it would take some sort of subsidy from the city to make the idea work, one that probably not realize a direct return in full. And she doesn't have a problem with that — provided it's reasonable.

And that may be the rub. The survival of the original theater's interior for 30 years, and the presence of a willing operator are serendipitous.

The timing of the city's ambitions as opposed to the theater owner's desires, however, are unfortunate.

El Cerrito needs time to analyze its options, minimize its financial exposure and (at the very least) safeguard the building's art deco murals. The owner of the building, meanwhile, wants an answer soon. Brusatori is not naive, saying "I expect there would be a subsidy" from the city to make the proposal work. She doesn't have a problem with that — if it's reasonable.

But she does want a clear picture of the assets and liabilities of the redevelopment agency. "I want to know whether we are going to have clear numbers so we are all marching into this with our eyes open."

Backing something that isn't solid enough would mean the loss of any credibility the city's redevelopment agency has. "The other thing I'm concerned about is security. I don't want to give money to find out in a couple of years that the concept doesn't work," Brusatori said.

The theater, she said, "is a treasure. But I want to find out how we can take some security, some collateral or something," and at the same time gain some assurance that the murals will stay in place.

What the council is able to work out may mean the difference between having a destination movie theater instead of a mattress store or rock-climbing facility anchoring a key commercial block of the city.

Chris Treadway is news editor of Hills Newspapers. Reach him at 510-243-3575 or ctreadway@ectimes.com.

Albany schools superintendent will retire

■ Superintendent will leave a year before his contract expires

By Kara Shire
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Superintendent Gary Mills, who weathered almost constant criticism during a months-long teacher salary squabble last spring, said this week he will retire from his post in June, a year before his contract expires.

Mills is Albany's second top district administrator to announce his departure in as many months. Deputy superintendent Wayne Padover resigned in December.

Mills leaves Albany after two

tumultuous years of teacher salary talks, questions over the use of tax funds and a \$1.6 million deficit that is almost certain to eat at classroom funds.

Mills did not return a phone call seeking comment Wednesday.

School board President David Farrell said the district will launch an immediate search for a new schools chief and hopes to have someone hired before classes get under way next fall.

"This community is known for its support of education, and it's a very demanding job for that reason," said Farrell. "I think we want somebody who will see the diamond here."

To end his contract a year early, the school board agreed to boost Mills' pay 40 percent from

\$100,000 to \$140,000. In return, the district will not have to provide continuing health insurance.

That fact irked teachers union President David De Hart.

"It's somewhat tragic that the school board had to spend extra money to facilitate the retirement of the superintendent at a time when we're facing such a budget crisis," De Hart said.

De Hart is advocating teacher involvement in hiring a new superintendent, which he thinks the "lame-duck" school board should delay.

"It would be tragic to have this school board have the final pick on the next superintendent," De Hart said. "Their track record is not very good."

A board majority faces reelection in November.

Mills came to Albany's 700-student Mark Twain district in 1999 to replace Hudson, who retired after years as Albany schools' superintendent.

An Ohio native with 30 years in public education, Mills has been named one of North America's top 100 school administrators by Executive Education magazine and was honored by the National Association of California Administrators for his leadership.

After his June 30 retirement, Mills plans to launch a consulting company.

Kara Shire covers education. Reach her at 510-262-2700 or kshire@ectimes.com.

Tunnel

FROM PAGE A1

"When we shut the tunnel down, the flow's going to reverse," Sykes said. It will be pushed in the opposite direction by portable pumping plants, each with a capacity of between 7- and 12-million gallons a day.

The project is planned to coincide with the time of year when water use is at its lowest.

Sykes, who is on a team in charge of the project, concedes it's been too long since the last inspection and said they should occur more frequently, but didn't say how often is enough.

Built between 1926 and 1929, the horseshoe-shaped Claremont Tunnel is nine feet in diameter and more than three miles long, running from Orinda to the Claremont Center, close to the Hayward Fault. The concrete is reinforced with steel rebar, which has protected it thus far.

The tunnel construction process is not without risk — 10 people died while building the pipeline, shortly after EBMUD was founded.

The air in the tunnel contains methane, a dangerously flammable gas, so EBMUD will set up a ventilation system to suck out three miles of air and blow in new air. Inspectors will also take in backup oxygen and gas monitors.

Seismologists predict that the Hayward fault, which bisects the service area, is a likely site for a large earthquake in the next 30 years. Some 70 percent of district customers could be out of water if the tunnel is damaged in a large earthquake.

Geologists estimate an 8.0-magnitude earthquake would shift the ground about seven feet in either direction near the fault. In the upcoming project, a stronger pipe bypassing the fault section will be installed to keep the system operational in the

event the main tunnel collapses.

Opponents of the project worry over EBMUD's admission that if the 18,000-foot tunnel were to shut down in an earthquake, the ability to fight fires in the dry season would be seriously hampered.

This could still happen after a retrofit, they argue.

A group of residents and environmentalists pushing for construction of a new tunnel — possibly elsewhere — have signed a petition demanding that an environmental report be conducted.

Another concern for some project area residents is the blasting that will take place under their homes.

The project's possible effect on the surrounding habitat led the Golden Gate Audubon Society to support the petition, as well.

Jacqui Smalley, the society's conservation committee chairwoman, said, "They're going to cut down 40 large trees, but these

pockets of urban habitat are vital" to birds nesting area.

Engineer Bob Krauss, Elmwood house straddling Oakland/Berkeley border, a perfect view of the area, the bypass will be some 100 feet from his home.

After analyzing a stack of comments on the tunnel acquisition of his neighborhood, Krauss concluded the proposal is the best possible alternative and that EBMUD is considering all possible construction options.

While Krauss questioned an inspection didn't take place sooner, he's not sure an environmental impact report is the answer.

"What won't come out of EIR is how sure we are of the Claremont Tunnel won't collapse if there's an earthquake," he said.

Whiskey

FROM PAGE A1

almost non-stop throughout the Bay Area and have cut an album together in Fletcher's garage recording studio.

Like most musicians, the boys have day jobs. Bush is a technical writer, Fletcher is an environmental manager at PG&E, MacFarlane is a philosophy professor at UC Berkeley and Ward is a cabinet maker.

Their attitudes toward success seem as down-home and easygoing as their music — they're clearly not in it for the money but for the love of a form of music

that can be heard in small venues all around the Bay Area yet can still seem obscure.

Bluegrass and old-timey music get little play on radio and TV — but its profile was raised last year when the movie "O Brother, Where Art Thou," which featured vintage songs on the soundtrack, went platinum.

Fletcher thinks he knows why the music is latched onto by almost anyone who hears it.

"It's a yearning for a simpler time in the music," said Fletcher who writes and sings many of their original tracks on the album. "It's pretty organic music; it's rootsy."

With no drums or other per-

cussion instruments in a traditional bluegrass band, the music's lively rhythms are carried by the strings. Later forms of folk, folk-rock and more still show the influence of old-time music, as shown by the Bros'. ease with colorful versions of "Hey, Mr. Spaceman," by The Byrds and "Ring of Fire," by Johnny Cash.

The audience swings right along with them.

"They're a lot of fun," said Steve Breslin of San Pablo, who was seeing the band for the first time on Thursday. "This is what I like to hear in music, and (the band) seems to be enjoying themselves."

Besides occasionally other venues in San Francisco such as the Hotel Union Atlas Café, the Whiskey will be at the San Francisco Grass Festival in February, Good Old-Fashioned Festival at the San Francisco grounds near Hollister.

All they want to do, plain, is have a little break from their day jobs — provide a little joy for old wanting to escape the day.

"It's not about the money we're just trying to play the music," said Bush. "It (that come out) the music."

Peralta

FROM PAGE A7

hauled in a \$1,500 grant from the California Council for the Humanities to help it continue its education series on the Middle East and Afghanistan.

The series, organized by students, faculty and staff, began in October with "Teach In, Speak Out: Making Sense of Sept. 11," which drew some 500 people, and will now run throughout spring semester.

Also taking off this term is a pilot project that will bring Vista animation classes directly to the campus of Berkeley Alternative High School.

Emeryville's Pixar Studios is watching the endeavor closely and is collaborating with Vista to bring similar classes to other East Bay high schools.

You'll hear more than the rush of sea breezes through

palm trees if you make it out to the island this month. College of Alameda hosts a lecture by Oakland East Bay Symphony Orchestra maestro Michael Morgan on Weds., Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m., in the CoA Student Lounge (F Building).

Morgan, who also directs the Festival Opera in Walnut Creek, will address the importance of music education and minority participation in the arts.

Following the maestro's talk, members of the Oakland Youth Orchestra will perform a variety of selections. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 748-2237.

Merritt College alumna/president Evelyn Wesley, recently profiled in the pages of a rival

paper, will be featured in an upcoming series of Peralta television spots.

The Oakland native talks about the confidence and pride she gained while attending Merritt, qualities that have helped her lead the hills campus, and encourages others to follow her in her footsteps. Look for the handsome, septatoned PSA's in the weeks ahead.

Hopped up as we are about Cornel West, Laney's vocational programs, Maestro Morgan's visit and President Wesley's TV ads, nothing compares with the excitement of a new semester. Spring term started yesterday, and registration ends Jan. 28. See you on campus!

Celebrate

FROM PAGE A1

will be El Cerrito High School students President Davis, Foana Suvani and Julius Van Hook.

"It's going to be a treat," said event organizer Patricia Durham, who expects 150 to 200 students to take part in the program.

The day starts outside the El Cerrito Department of Motor Vehicles office at Manila and Kearney avenues, where parade participants (all are welcome to join) will assemble at 9:30 a.m. The parade, which will include the Kennedy High School marching band, departs at 10:30 and goes to the Community Center, where the rally/celebration begins at 11 a.m.

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Campus Ministry & Student Leadership

Real Estate & Home

Supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, January 18, 2002

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B5]

Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B11]

Ready for 107% financing?

ba-a-ack!!
two years ago, when multiple
were the norm and home
were escalating out of con-
loan product was introduced
allowed for 107 percent of the
price. Unfortunately, our
funds dried up about six
ago.

The lenders said that the 107
loan product had one of
highest default rates of any loan
products they had sold over a 24-
month period. Also, the maximum
amount including the closing
was limited to \$400,000.

Our new lending source feels
have resolved several issues
the previous source did not.
programs were and are 30-
fixed-rate loans, but the biggest
change is that our past lender al-
"No Income Qualification"
scores of 720 or better. The
program requires that income
be documented, over docu-
ment really.

For salaried borrowers, they
previous two years W2s, the
recent pay stub dated within
days of close of escrow and two
dated and signed tax returns
all schedules. In addition, if the
owner is self-employed, a year
profit and loss statement
bank statements for the entire
year (24 months).

Rental income must be reported
on tax return schedule E as well
have the current rental agree-
ment. Retirement income such as
pensions and social security re-
serves both the awards letter and
state that the funds are de-
ducted into an account.

This loan program does have a
minimum credit score of 720 for the
maximum loan amount \$650,000
purchases and \$400,000 for rate
term refi's (no cash out except
debt consolidation). No history
bankruptcy ever (or 10 years
it falls off the credit report.)
minimum credit scores of 680
allow for maximum purchase of



KAREN SENZIG
Mortgage Madness

\$500,000 and \$400,000 for rate and
term plus debt consolidation.

The lender requires that the bor-
rower be removed from any bank-
ruptcy action for at least seven
years and have re-established credit
with at least five new accounts. The
back-end ratio (monthly housing
and debt expense divided by in-
come) cannot exceed 45 percent.

Use of the proceeds over the
100 percent can include the non-
recurring closing costs (points,
loan origination fees, appraisal,
lender review appraisal, process-
ing fees, lender fees, escrow and
title fees) as well as some prepaid
escrows such as hazard and flood
insurance.

The borrower may use the bal-
ance to pay down credit cards and
installment loans to help qualify.

For example, on a \$500,000 pur-
chase, the base note rate would be
set at 100 percent financing or
\$500,000.

Estimate 3 percent for non-re-
curring closing costs (\$15,000) and
another \$1,820 for hazard-flood in-
surance and the base loan amount
runs up to \$516,820.

That would leave a maximum of
\$18,180 to pay down consumer
credit cards to help the borrower
qualify. When you consider that
amount of consumer debt would
have monthly payments of \$545 to
\$909 per month, you see how this
would help in the qualifying
process.

The total loan amount would be
\$535,000. Pricing changes with this
loan program change like any other

See SENZIG, Page B2

Enjoy the views from this charming Tudor Revival



DENISE EVANOSKY

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

This charming sun-filled home at
695 Cragmont Ave. in Berke-
ley sits high atop a ridge and of-
fers bay views from the living
room and upstairs bedroom.

The property includes a beau-
tiful garden with a level terrace
and lush landscaping.

Inside the home are three gen-
erous-sized bedrooms, two baths,

and lots of closet space. An en-
trway encased in the home's
original dark mahogany wood-
work welcomes you home.

Wood-beam vaulted ceilings
complement the home's tall, brick
fireplace. The entire upper floor
boasts gorgeous hardwood
floors. Large windows allow lots
of light into the living room with
its commanding bay views. The

large dining room will allow you
to entertain in style. The kitchen
with its original counters and an
abundance of cabinetry awaits
your imaginative touch. Upgrades
include a new roof and founda-
tion along with extensive drainage
and seismic work.

Take a virtual tour of the home
at www.berkhills.com. Click on
"Listings for Berkeley."

Offered at \$649,000,
the home will be open
this Sunday from 1 to
4 p.m. To learn more,
call Denise Milburn at
510-524-9888, ext. 35.

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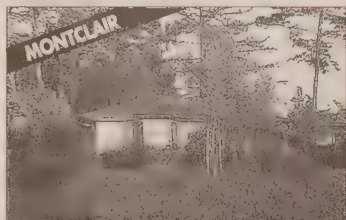
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Skyline Gate Trails across the street from
Redwood Park. 4BD/3BA, master suite
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dining rooms, cook's kitchen with adjoining
family room. Abundant use of archways,
hardwood, and stone throughout. Three
fireplaces.

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



5736 CHELTON DRIVE \$699,000
Move right in! Updated custom home.
3BD/2BA, formal dining room, two
fireplaces, garden room. Level low
maintenance secluded Japanese garden.
Close to Montclair schools. More photos at
www.wellsandbennett.com.

Claire Svitek 531-7000 x274



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ceilings/floors and glazed Doric columns.
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Doris Taboloff 925-943-1187

NEW LISTING-SOMERSET ROAD!.....\$285,000

Located in Oakland about 200' from Piedmont. About 9150 sq. ft. Upslope with some
views. No reports. Area of multi-million dollar homes.

Frank Hennefer 654-6461

NEW LISTING-SOMERSET ROAD.....\$245,000

Located in Oakland, few 100 feet from Piedmont. About 5063 sq. ft. No reports. Area
of multi-million dollar homes.

Frank Hennefer 654-6461

21+ ACRES IN CROCKETT.....\$235,000

Stunning view of Crockett, Benicia and Carquinez Strait. Currently grazing land. Use
your imagination, explore the possibilities! Surrounded by EBRP and a few ranches.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461

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homes selling for \$900K & up. Lots of ongoing new construction in area. Buyer to
pay EBMUD front footage charge at time of hookup.

Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251 or 530-4148

4 MONTCLAIR CONTIGUOUS LOTS.....\$100K - \$130K

Located in Montclair. Includes design review approved plans and partially done
engineering calcs.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461



4329 SALEM STREET \$285,000
Well taken care of 2+BD/1.5BA great starter
home. Nice community. Remodeled kitchen
and bath. Full basement. Back deck and yard.

Elizabeth Sky 531-7000 x233



385 JAYNE #307 \$185,000
Simply super 1BD condo! Updated kitchen,
Corian, newer appliances. Wonderful
closets. Quiet location. Pleasant views from
balcony.

Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246

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PROFESSIONALISM & INTEGRITY SINCE 1965 A FAMILY TRADITION

New Year's resolution for home maintenance

Lose weight; quit smoking; exercise regularly; test the smoke detector. What have you resolved to do in 2002? If you're like most Americans, along with ringing in the New Year, you've made a host of resolutions intended to improve your lifestyle and well-being.

The examples, losing weight, quitting smoking and exercising are among the most common "to-dos." Less common is the final example — testing the smoke detector in your home. Often overlooked, it is no less important than the other resolutions.

Testing a smoke detector is just one of several home-maintenance tasks that should be performed on a regular basis. Maintenance performed regularly and on schedule provides optimum longevity, helps prevent potential breakdowns or malfunctions, and ensures maximum safety for you and your family.

Your assignment

Check Furnace Filters: The purpose of the filter on a forced-air furnace is to keep dust, soot, and other contaminants from collecting on the interior workings of your furnace. In addition, a high-quality filter will cut down on airborne dust and particulate matter that is blown into your living area. Once the filter has been sufficiently coated with this grime, it causes the furnace blower to work harder, making it more costly to operate and shortening its life span. A clean filter will help the furnace run more efficiently and save on operating costs.

Since filter size and location vary from furnace to furnace, you'll need to check the owner's handbook for this type of information. If an owner's handbook doesn't exist, this information usually can be found on the furnace or on an inside panel of the furnace. Some furnaces have more than one filter that will need replacement. Buying replacement filters by the case will cut down on the unit price and will make replacement convenient.

Check Water Filters and Softeners: Water filters are a great means of improving water quality (smell and taste). The secret to keeping water quality high is replacing filters regularly. The frequency depends upon the type of system and the condition of the water. Whole house filters, point-of-use dispensers and icemaker water supplies can each be changed in a matter of minutes. Besides providing better quality water, a clean filter will improve flow.

Although a water softening system is reasonably maintenance-free, every now and again the brine solution becomes clogged at the base of the brine tank, preventing the solution from being siphoned into the resin tank. You know this is the case when your brine tank is full of salt and your water doesn't have that sick feel.

Check your owner's manual for information on how to flush the brine tank, or call a service pro to do it for you.

Clean the Dryer Duct and Filter: Clean the lint screen thoroughly after every load. If it's filled and clogged with lint, the air won't circulate and the clothes won't dry. The dryer runs



MORRIS & JAMES CAREY
On the House

far longer, which wears it out faster and wastes energy dollars. Use a duct cleaning brush to clean the dryer duct at least twice annually.

Clean and Freshen Sink Drains: Foul odors from a sink drain can make your home both unpleasant and uninviting. To keep sink drains in your home running freely — and absent of odor — try these methods: 1) Run hot water through the sink after each use; 2) Throw a handful of baking soda into the drain and follow it with hot water; 3) Pour a cup of vinegar into the drain and let it sit for a half-hour. Then chase it down with very hot water.

Test Smoke Detectors: All smoke detectors and alarms have a "test button." Once a month, get up on a chair, or use a broom handle for extra reach, and push it. If you don't hear anything, your battery is dead. If after changing the battery, the smoke detector still is not working, immediately replace it with a new one. Test the smoke detector by striking three kitchen matches, blowing them out and holding them near the unit. While you're up there checking your battery and testing the detector, brush or vacuum the alarm to keep dust out of the mechanism.

Test Carbon Monoxide Detectors: The care and maintenance of a carbon monoxide detector is much the same as for smoke detectors with regard to cleaning and frequent testing. However, a carbon monoxide detector can't be tested using an outside source. Therefore, it is imperative that the test buttons provided on the equipment be tested at least once each month.

Flush the Water Heater and Check the PTR: Mineral deposits and sediment at the base of a water heater tank make the job of heating water infinitely more difficult and affect your utility bill. Check your water heater for sediment and remove at least once annually.

The pressure and temperature relief valve (PTR) opens to release pressure buildup in the water heater when the temperature or the pressure gets dangerously high, thus preventing a possible explosion.

To test the valve, simply raise and lower the test lever several times so it lifts the brass stem it is fastened to. Hot water should rush out of the end of the drainpipe. If no water flows through the pipe or you get just a trickle, replace the valve.

Test GFCI receptacles: The Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) was developed to prevent electrical shocks. All GFCI receptacles have test buttons. You should test each receptacle in your home at least once a month. If the test doesn't trip the breaker, replace the GFCI immediately.

For more home improvement tips and information visit the Web site at www.onthehouse.com.

A look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

Alameda Museum Lecture Series
From architecture to windows, the Alameda Museum provides lectures for everyone who loves homes. The slide lectures are narrated by prominent Bay Area authors and historians. The museum is located on Alameda Avenue near Park Street in Alameda. The series begins in February and continues through June. Watch this column for more details or call 510-748-0796 for information.

Remodel or Build - Free Lectures
The Building Education Center on Page Street, in Berkeley is offering two free lectures for the Do It Yourselfer. The first lecture is "What You Need to Know before You Build or Remodel," by builder Glen Kitzberger. There are two opportunities for the Kitzberger lecture on Jan. 19 and 21. The second lecture "Choosing to Add On: Pros and Cons of Building an Addition" is on Jan. 19. The presenter is author/designer Skip Wenz. For more information call 510-525-7610.

Handy Classes

The Building Education Center in Berkeley provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. "Basic Home Repair and Improvement Skills" is a hands-on workshop taught by carpenter Rodney Kooyman, on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 26 and 27. Join the "Controlling Termites and Dryrot" seminar on Sunday, Jan. 27.

The instructor is author/contractor Don Pearman. For more information on classes and costs call the center. Contact Sydney at 510-525-7610 or visit the website at bldgductr.org.

Homeowner's Course

The Building Education Center begins its 17-session "Home-

owner's Essential Course: How to Build, Remodel and Maintain Your Home" on Wednesday, Jan. 23 from 7 to 10 p.m. The class meets Mondays and Wednesdays. Tuition is \$475, including the textbook. Attend the first class free. For more information call 510-525-7610.

Real Estate Careers

Have you ever wondered about a career in real estate? Want to know what it takes? What type of schooling is involved? How do I prepare for the exam? The answers to your questions are available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office, in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.

GOT SPEAKER?

Kathleen Adams of First American Home Buyers Protection is the 2002 Program Chairperson for the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter. Adams is looking for speakers for the Chapter's monthly meetings. If you are interested in doing a presentation for the group or want to recommend someone, contact Adams at 800-444-9030.

INTERNET PORTAL

Realtors are invited to experience www.realtor.org, an online gateway created by the National Association of Realtors. It pledges to put the power of the Web at realtors' fingertips. The new site promises to be the premier portal for the real estate community. It features advanced tools and technology and allows for interaction with peers throughout the industry. Realtor.org combines into one information portal and number of existing sites. Check it out.

A ROYAL MOVE

Denise Smith, Broker/Owner of Royal Realtors and Loan Services announced a change of location for her company. Royal is now located at 2255 MacArthur

Boulevard, off Fruitvale Avenue. Smith is Past President of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter and a Vice President/Director for the Oakland Association of Realtors. She is also President of the Dare to Dream Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps provide affordable housing. The phone number for Smith and Royal Realtors, 510-482-8200 remains the same.

MORTGAGE PROFESSIONALS

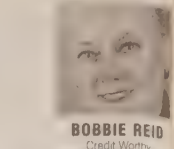
Attention Mortgage Professionals. Learning more about an industry is as important as being a part of that industry. The California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL) and the California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB) strive to keep mortgage professionals educated and informed. Both have monthly dinner meetings, with guest speakers discussing timely topics. CARL meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month beginning with networking at 6:00 p.m. Networking also kicks off each CAMB meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month. To find out more call these organizations' hotlines. The CARL Hotline is 925-746-1847. The CAMB Hotline is 925-275-2663.

Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic Boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast refreshments are served. Need info? Want to recommend a speaker? Call Pat Johnson of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-296-3300.

WHO'S ON FIRST?

The Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter's new president is George Johnson. Johnson is a loan officer with



Realtors are invited to experience www.realtor.org, an online gateway created by the National Association of Realtors. It pledges to put the power of the Web at realtors' fingertips.

Ameristar Financial. He can be reached at 925-314-8314.

The Alameda Association of Realtors, Realtor of the Year, Victor Jin of Property Invest Services. To say congrats, call him at 510-523-1115.

Hadi Monsef of Monsef Management takes over 2002 presidential duties for the Alameda Association of Realtors. Monsef is available at 510-8074.

Someone new at your company is doing? Changing? Putting on a seminar? Let me know. I'd love to let the world know. All my contacts listed below.

WHAT'S UP DOC??

I need your information! column. Fundraisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, ignitions and change of a (company). I want to know! Information deadline is two weeks before the event. There are convenient ways to reach me. Send an email to bobbierid@dotplanet.com or your info to me at 510-441-7190. Call me at 510-441-7190.

Fixed-rates at 5-week low; ARMs remain unchanged

McLean, VA — In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.06 percent, with an average cost of 0.8 point (1 point equals 1 percent of the loan amount), for the week ended Jan. 11, down from 7.14 percent last week.

A year ago, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage average was 6.89 percent.

The average for the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage this week is 6.55 percent, with an average cost of 0.7 point, falling from last week when the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 6.62 percent.

A year ago, the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 6.49 percent.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.26 percent this week, with an average cost of 0.8 point, unchanged from last week's average of 5.26 percent.

This time last year, the one-year ARM averaged 6.65 percent.

"Feeling more comfortable about the upcoming economic rebound, the financial markets relaxed a bit this week," said Frank Nothhaft, Freddie Mac chief economist.

Although mortgage originations will not be as strong as last year, all indications continue to point to a strong year for home purchases.

Freddie Mac chief economist Robert Nothhaft

"With the market more settled this week, interest rates on fixed-rate mortgages eased this to the lowest rate in five weeks."

"Low rates continue to keep the housing industry buoyant. As a matter of fact, the Mortgage Bankers Association of America's, most recent report on mortgage applications showed the number of applications for home purchases to be at an all-time high, suggesting strong home sales for the next few months. And although mortgage originations will not be as strong as last year, all indications continue to point to a strong year for home purchases."

Senzig

FROM PAGE B1

fixed rate, but there is no mortgage insurance premium. As of this writing, interest rates ranged from 8.25 percent at 2 points and 8.75 percent at no points for borrowers with the best credit.

The monthly principal and interest payments on the 2-point loan would be \$4,019 or \$4,257 on the no point loan. Of course, in the case of a no-point loan the borrower would have \$10,000 more to pay off debt or could reduce the loan amount to \$525,000 and the payment would be reduced to \$4,177. The borrower would need to demonstrate minimum monthly income of about \$1,000 to qualify for this loan amount.

The loan is limited to single family homes, condos and PUDs (Planned Urban Developments such

as town homes and zero-lot developments).

As mentioned earlier the mortgage insurance requirement means you must pay your taxes and insurance (your monthly payment).

There is, however, a prepayment penalty that can be bought out or down to a zero period. Our other lending had no prepayment penalty, those people who did not on their loan, refinanced a loan as soon as they could.

Our new lender believes with these tighter restrictions will be able to help more people become homeowners.

Everyone should experience the joys of Mortgage Madness.

Karen Senzig is Co-Owner of Montclair Mortgage with band Scott. She can be reached at 510-339-8511, fax 510-339-8511 or email at ksenzig@aol.com.

Real Estate & Home

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Range. 2/3 bedrooms - you decide
For more information, call Stan
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2901 - 75th AVE. LOTS HOUSE!
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bedrooms, 2.5 baths. \$399,900.
Mary Ann Herber, 1-800-523-
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great wooded area with a great
view of the San Francisco Bay
Area. Priced at \$45,000, Kathy
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HILL. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths,
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new patio, hot tub, fencing. Great
schools, easy access to 580,
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baths, designer options. In the
process of being refreshed. HALF
MILLION DOLLAR RANGE. For
more information, call Stan
Lockhart, 510-748-1805.

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MARINA BAY HOME. Cathedral
ceiling, spiral staircase, 3
bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Walk to
Marina and miles of the Bay Trail.
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Michael Studebaker,
510-748-1129.

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Oakland

\$180,000 834 Peralta St. Contractors special 4bd, 1ba, formal dining room, laundry room and unfinished basement. Across from elementary school and near BART. Can be very charming home. Nina 510-814-4836.

\$198,000 3W Embarcadero 227. Quiet super private unit on second floor with carpet parking. One bedroom with double doors. Walk to Jack London waterfront. Next to channel "Z". Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$195,000 1317 Centerville. Large Victorian! 3bd, 2ba, family room, finished basement. Great location! Kathy 510-814-4706

\$225,000 930 Pine St. Perfect for live/work! Approx 1400 sq. ft. 14' ceiling, skylites, & roll up door. Needs work! Good location. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$358,000 8048 Greenly Dr. Single level 2bd, 1ba bungalow! Large eat in kitchen and family room. Large deck and in-ground pool in private yard. Donnaluci 510-814-4826

San Leandro

\$74,000. 62 Santa Margarita. 1ST OPEN SUN 2-4. Spacious double-wide mobile home in a great location! 2bd, 2ba, den/family room, laundry room, and lots of closet space. Two car carport and storage shed. Chuck 510-814-4847

\$299,000 14406 Segrate Dr. Lovely townhome with 3bd, 2.5ba, all appliances. Patio near stream. Tere 510-814-4840

Hayward

\$299,000 42 Dutton Ave. Corner upgraded single level 2bd bungalow! 1ba, 1.5ba, 1.5ba, washer, dryer and garage. Tom 510-814-4840

\$335,000 2507 Galleon Pl. San Leandro. Lovely quiet location at Marina 3bd, 2.5ba, dining area, fireplace, pool, and inside laundry. Central pool, tennis courts, spa, and close to courts. Tere 510-814-4840

\$439,888 16615 Rolando. Panoramic View! 4bd, 3ba, 2.5ba, view 4 miles. Attached 2 car garage. Attached 2 car garage. Nina 510-814-4836

\$299,900 20 Trestle Dr. Country charm-large 3bd, 2ba, unit! Remodeled kitchen, dining, master bedroom. Attached garage. Margaret 510-814-4829

Orinda

\$99,000 El Toyonal, Rawlins plans for a 3bd, 2ba, 1.5ba, premarina, 1.5ba, 1.5ba, 1.5ba, slope in established neighborhood. Russ 510-814-4713

\$595,000 5490 Barrel M. OPEN SUN 2-4 Colonial 4+bd, 2.5 bath home with master bedroom, dressing area and fireplace, built-in, plus an office or den, formal dining room, 2-car garage, large yard with gazebo & fruit trees to transportation. Denise 510-814-4840

\$595,000 5490 Barrel M. OPEN SUN 2-4 Colonial 4+bd, 2.5 bath home with master bedroom, dressing area and fireplace, built-in, plus an office or den, formal dining room, 2-car garage, large yard with gazebo & fruit trees to transportation. Denise 510-814-4840

\$595,000 5490 Barrel M. OPEN SUN 2-4 Colonial 4+bd, 2.5 bath home with master bedroom, dressing area and fireplace, built-in, plus an office or den, formal dining room, 2-car garage, large yard with gazebo & fruit trees to transportation. Denise 510-814-4840

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Having car stolen a harrowing experience

Number 386 in a series of true experiences in real estate

This really has nothing to do with real estate except that it happened in the house where I live, but I've told the story. My car was



TAROFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences

But when we got to it and looked inside, it was bad. The back seat had been removed entirely. In its place were four tires, not my tires, just some tires.

only models prior to 1993. The Volvo man is based in Red Bluff but he delivers to the Bay Area. Anet kindly took on phone discussions of Volvos, mileage, servicing and such, and she suggested I buy a 1989 model with a charcoal exterior and gray interior, "very clean". She said it was in good shape with 90,000 miles on it — low, apparently, for a Volvo — and the price was \$4,500.

We still didn't know what the insurance company would pay, but time was getting short and this car sounded as good as anything I was going to find, and so I agreed. A few days later, the Volvo arrived. It looks fine and works fine although it feels heavier, clunkier than the Chrysler, more like driving a truck. I'm getting used to it.

The insurance folks decided that \$3,500 was what they were willing to pay for my car. This includes \$200 for personal property stored inside, the maximum they allow no matter what was in it. They sent me a check which I received on a recent Friday.

On the Monday following, five weeks after the car had been stolen, I was at our office and about to go to the bank to deposit the insurance check when the Oakland police called. They'd found my car! It had been left on a side street off High Street in Oakland and had first been ticketed for abandonment 18 days after being stolen.

The police officer said that the car looked pretty good. I should go the towing yard and see. Quickly we called the insurance company.

Was it too late? Could I still get my car back or did it now irrevocably belong to them? Miraculously, the paperwork had not left the insurance company office. If the car was in ok shape, I could still return the settlement check and get my car.

Lagoon home in Harbor Bay Isle offers tranquil views



122 PURCELL DRIVE, ALAMEDA

\$675,000

OPEN SUNDAY FROM 2 TO 5 PM

Welcome to Brittany Harbor. This beautiful three-bedroom, two-and-one-half-bath executive townhome is situated directly on the lagoon.

The townhome is the largest Malibu model with approx. 2,370 square feet with extremely spacious rooms.

The large 27-foot-long living room and the private master bedroom suite with balcony both look out over the tranquil backyard and peaceful lagoon.

This home has a beautiful sunny backyard; it is fenced, private, and has three large tri-level decks and professional park-like landscaping.

The home boasts many upgrades including built-in bookcases, two fireplaces, air conditioning, extensive storage units, new

carpet, and new roof. Brittany Harbor has a pool and spa, and is conveniently located next to the Harbor Bay Club and Shoreline Park. Come and experience this beautiful home this weekend.

Open Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. Call Elaine Millin at Harbor Bay Realty 510-865-7747. Take a virtual tour at www.hbrhomes.com

Montclair Better Homes Realty



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MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE

When it's your move



W. RICHMOND 400 Western Ave. \$1,095,000
Spacious custom-built home with spectacular Bay views. Four bedrooms, three baths, gracious, sunny living room, formal dining room, decks, master suite with oversized oval bath, spa, walk-out room. Walk to private beach and parks.
Open 1-4 Sunday
Doris Jones
(510) 559-2902



EL CERRITO 425 Bonnie Dr. \$445,000
Walk to BART, Plaza, schools from this spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath Golden Gate view home in favorite neighborhood. Needs some TLC, but features gourmet kitchen, formal dining room, family room with fireplace, bonus room.
Open 2-4 Sunday
Mary Gray
(510) 559-2939



LA SORRANTE 5595 Amend Rd. \$318,000
Great market. All on one level 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on large lot. Mega off-street parking, air conditioner, great floor plan. Endless possibilities for large private rear yard.
Open 1:30-4:30 Sunday
Doris Alexander
(510) 559-2938



SAN PABLO \$219,000
Coming soon! Top floor condo with vaulted ceilings, loft, two bedrooms, two baths, fireplace and deck. Centrally located in San Pablo.
Denyse Biagi
(510) 559-2908



W. OAKLAND 950 60th Street \$239,000
Charming 1910 "farm house" in convenient location. Two bedrooms, dining room, eat-in kitchen, fully fenced yard. Move-in condition.
Open 2-4 Sunday
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BERKELEY As-Is 855 Cedar Street \$275,000
WESTBROOK COTTAGE! Great location! Walking distance to 4th St. & Gilman St. with wonderful shops, cafes & restaurants to explore. Close to transportation. Three bedrooms, one bath, potential charmer w/hardwood floors, good sized lot & detached garage. Probate sale subject to court confirmation.
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\$235,000

For a virtual tour of this home, visit me at www.NahidMBH.com



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727 Coventry, Kensington
Gorgeous 2 bedrooms, 1 bath Tudor
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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA
 1229 Beach Rd - \$419,000
 3820 Cook Ln - \$380,000
 227 Creedon Cr - \$1,085,000
 224 Inverness Ct - \$387,000
 256 Kuybegs Rd - \$565,000
 225 Lincoln Av - \$320,000
 2918 Marina Dr - \$460,000
 120 Norwich Rd - \$693,000
 256 Ratto Rd - \$693,000
 1275 Silva Ln - \$365,000
 1281 Silva Ln - \$391,000
 585 Tarryton Isle - \$600,000
 1327 Webster #B20 - \$180,000
 1321 Webster #D31 - \$193,000

BANY
 555 Pierce St #133 - \$405,000

BERKELEY
 2337 Blake St - \$558,000
 2148 California #47 - \$195,000
 2575 Cedar St - \$772,000
 1408 Delaware St - \$401,000
 1332 Francisco St - \$480,000
 2222 Hillegass Av #C - \$224,500
 1112 Hillview Rd - \$479,000
 1234 MLK Jr Wy - \$430,000
 2820 Sacramento St - \$279,000
 833 Santa Rosa Av - \$725,000

CERRITO
 1702 Arlington Bl - \$411,500
 1101 Ivy Ct - \$760,000
 715 Midcrest Wy - \$210,000

CONCORD
 4560 Elmwood Rd - \$350,000
 4066 Lambert Rd - \$250,000
 839 Marin Rd - \$290,000
 3430 S.R. Dam Rd #37 - \$180,000
 1800 Sherwood Forest - \$295,000

DENVILLE
 6383 Christie A #607 - \$442,000

DUNSMITH
 275 Kenyon Av - \$300,000

EMERYVILLE
 668 23rd St - \$89,000
 1706 27th Av - \$405,000
 7232 30th St - \$220,000
 486 43rd St - \$410,000
 890 45th St - \$90,000
 948 47th St - \$158,000
 1175 50th Av - \$160,000
 886 63rd St - \$700,000
 1915 70th Av - \$185,000
 2133 73rd Av - \$245,000
 1149 87th Av - \$212,500
 1328 89th Av - \$146,000
 1323 94th Av - \$233,000
 2189 Andrews St - \$450,000
 708 Arimo Av - \$735,000
 1760 Arrowhead Dr - \$525,000
 5660 Balboa Dr - \$765,000
 5512 Balboa Dr - \$450,000
 132 Beechwood Dr - \$1,325,000
 4818 Belfast Av - \$405,000
 14000 Broadway Tr - \$950,000
 4060 Burckhalter Av - \$275,000
 628 Caldwell Rd - \$675,000
 700 Canyon Oaks A - \$190,000
 836 Center St - \$275,000

8123 Dowling St - \$279,000
 2024 East 19th St - \$300,000
 1936 East 26th St - \$76,000
 1358 East 28th St - \$360,000
 1163 El Centro Av - \$424,000
 801 Franklin St #617 - \$241,000
 6173 Girvin Dr - \$785,000
 6430 Girvin Dr - \$650,000
 72 Gravatt Dr - \$775,000
 3132 Harrison St - \$257,000
 6032 Harwood Av - \$580,000
 758 Kingston Av #23 - \$349,000
 415 Lagunitas #427 - \$307,000
 5235 Lawton Av - \$555,000
 3733 Linwood Av - \$475,000
 7862 Lockwood St - \$210,000
 6646 Lucille St - \$210,000
 5461 MacArthur Bl - \$225,000
 704 Mandana Bl - \$512,000
 4289 Maple Av - \$419,000
 257 Marlow Dr - \$395,500
 4039 Norton Av - \$392,000
 9718 Olive St - \$207,000
 334 Park View 406 - \$223,000
 150 Pearl St #225 - \$179,000
 1507 Peralta St - \$165,000
 3266 Pleitner Av - \$310,000
 3073 Richmond Bl - \$659,000
 836 Santa Ray Av - \$130,000
 45 Schooner Hill - \$663,000
 6429 Shelterwood Dr - \$450,000
 124 Sheridan Av - \$150,000
 6333 Skyline Bl - \$1,150,000
 7425 Skyline Bl - \$425,000
 6047 Snake Rd - \$625,000
 15 Southwood Ct - \$620,000
 57 Spy Glass Hill - \$600,000
 9849 St. Elmo Dr - \$218,000
 2303 Tiffin Rd - \$435,000
 23 Town Square Pl - \$245,000
 4607 Virginia Av - \$255,000
 1918 Warner Av - \$190,000
 4929 Webster St - \$597,000
 811 York St #337 - \$178,000
 6020 Zinn Rd - \$650,000

EMERYVILLE
 154 Arbor Dr - \$680,000
 650 Blair Av - \$1,050,000
 214 Moraga Av - \$550,000
 215 San Carlos Av - \$1,032,000
 1 Saroni Ct - \$1,100,000

EMERYVILLE
 1628 2nd St - \$130,000
 2523 Clinton Av - \$230,000
 5312 Clinton Av - \$335,000
 2734 East Ct - \$155,000
 3721 Florida Av - \$250,000
 2422 Garvin Av - \$165,000
 5219 Gately Av - \$260,000
 2970 McKenzie Dr - \$220,000
 812 Poppy Ct - \$328,000
 2146 Sand Dollar Dr - \$315,000
 346 South 26th St - \$210,000
 333 South 7th St - \$180,000
 5930 Van Fleet Av - \$340,000

EMERYVILLE
 1260 147th Av - \$260,000
 2195 Altamont Rd - \$325,000
 3778 Anza Wy - \$310,000
 15356 Beatty St - \$338,000
 258 Bellevue Dr - \$290,000
 3905 Carmel Wy - \$365,000
 13453 Doolittle Dr - \$231,500
 314 Garcia Av - \$278,500
 920 Juana Av - \$300,000
 891 Martin Bl - \$285,000

720 Matoza Ln - \$518,000
 16226 Maubert Av - \$275,000
 2287 Upland Rd - \$235,000
 1873 Wayne Av - \$360,000

SAN LORENZO
 16825 Bar Av - \$275,000
 15676 Vassar Av - \$300,000
 956 Via Enrico - \$370,000
 17407 Via La Jolla - \$310,000
 999 William Dr - \$387,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA
 TOTAL SALES: 14
 LOWEST PRICE: \$180,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,085,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$464,143

ALBANY
 TOTAL SALES: 1
 PRICE: \$405,000

BERKELEY
 TOTAL SALES: 10
 LOWEST PRICE: \$195,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$772,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$454,350

EL CERRITO
 TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$210,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$760,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$411,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$460,500

EL SOBRANTE
 TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$160,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$350,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$290,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$269,000

EMERYVILLE
 TOTAL SALES: 1
 PRICE: \$442,000

KENSINGTON
 TOTAL SALES: 1
 PRICE: \$300,000

OAKLAND
 TOTAL SALES: 70
 LOWEST PRICE: \$76,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,325,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$415,343

PIEDMONT
 TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$550,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,100,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,032,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$882,400

RICHMOND
 TOTAL SALES: 13
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$340,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$230,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$239,846

SAN LEANDRO
 TOTAL SALES: 14
 LOWEST PRICE: \$231,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$518,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$312,214

SAN LORENZO
 TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$275,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$387,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$310,000



A CONTEMPORARY ENTRY ROOM HAS CLEAN LINES and bold colors. An example is silver door hardware and lighting fixtures plus a statue.

Entry

FROM PAGE B4

mailbox, in the same finish as the hardware to bring additional color, style and personality to your entryway.

■ Install a kick plate to the bottom of the door for a more sophisticated look without significant cost. A kick plate adds visual interest and it protects the door from scuffs.

■ Illuminate your porch with elegant lighting that complements your new home's exterior.

■ Place fresh greenery or flowers in decorative pots on either side of the door to add life and color to your entryway.

■ Put out the welcome mat — literally. A doormat on the outside means less dirt and grime on floors inside the home, while adding warmth to your entryway.

Dressing up the inside

"You want your guests to feel warm, comfortable and welcome when they first walk through your door," Stephens says. "Your foyer

is their first and last impression."

She adds, "Three distinct ideas for decorating entryways include updated Asian, contemporary and traditional. By following one of these styles you can set the tone for an entire home. Many of the items from the different styles can be mixed and matched to develop a unique look that reflects your home's personality."

According to Stephens, the traditional look is still a favorite among designers and homeowners alike. To achieve this classic look, she recommends taking advantage of rich colors, golden tones and detailed furniture and accessory pieces.

Creative solutions with minimal space

Newer homes often incorporate two-story foyers and windows allowing lots of light, so you may need to incorporate elements that make the space feel more grounded like a rich colored rug and dark table. Entryways can also be tight on space, but the right decorating can make them grand. Stephens offers these suggestions for giving your foyer a welcome flair that carries

through the rest of the home:

■ Use decorative mirrors to make the space appear larger.

■ Define the room by using paint and wall covering. Keep in mind that the darker the color, the smaller a room will look; lighter colors tend to make a room more airy.

■ For window treatments, the higher they are set, the taller they will appear.

■ Use non-traditional accessories and have fun with the entryway.

■ Express your personality by starting an entryway theme and carry it through the house. There are few "rules" when it comes to mixing or matching styles.

Both Stephens and Thompson agrees that the same style can be carried through from the exterior to the interior or that styles can be combined.

However, when it comes to the exterior entryway, Thompson advises do-it-yourself decorators to keep the same style door hardware and lighting fixtures, while using a variety of accessories to develop the overall desired look.

Do-it-yourself tips on faucets, doors

BY GENE AUSTIN

KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

Q. When we turn off the faucet in an upstairs bathroom, we hear a very loud banging in the water lines. I have replaced faucet washers, but it hasn't helped. What next?

A. You are probably experiencing water hammer, caused by the lack of an air cushion in the water pipes. The banging results when water, with no air in the pipe to ease the shock, slams into the closed valve.

It is sometimes possible to cure water hammer by draining the water out of the pipes and admitting some air. In most homes, the water can be drained by closing the valve on the street side of the water meter and loosening the union fitting on the other side of the meter. Be sure to put a bucket or other sizable container under the union to catch the water that will run out. All hot- and cold-water faucets in the house should also be opened to let the water drain out. When draining stops, close all the faucets, retighten the union fitting, and open the water valve.

If the house has well water or you are in doubt about how to drain the lines, have a plumber do it.

Another treatment, which might be needed if draining doesn't work, is installing an air-cushion chamber in the noisy line. The chambers, which are available from plumbers

and plumbing-supply dealers, are generally installed above or near noisy fixtures. Pieces of capped pipe 12 to 18 inches long are also sometimes used for air chambers.

Q. I bought a replacement lock set for a door. To install the set, I need a larger hole for the latch than the existing hole in the door. How do I enlarge the hole while keeping it centered on the original hole?

A. You can generally enlarge the hole with a round or half-round rasp or file. Special rasp-type bits for drills, which remove wood more quickly than a hand rasp, are also available. Holes for door locks must be carefully placed, but they do not have to be perfectly round because they are concealed by decorative parts of the lock set. When removing wood, make certain that you do not go beyond the area that will be covered by the lock parts.

Q. I have a rollout desk. The slats on the sliding cover are coming loose. Is there any way to repair this?

A. The slats on a rollout desk cover are glued to a flexible backing. The entire cover slides in grooves in the sides of the desk. To reglue the slats to the backing, you will have to remove the cover. This can generally be done by removing the back panel of the desk and sliding the cover out. Spread the cover on a flat surface, and put some woodworker's glue, such as

Titebond, on the back of a loose slat. Put the slat in position and clamp or weight it down so it makes good contact with the backing.

If you find that the cover's backing is deteriorated or if this is a valuable desk, I recommend having repairs made by an expert. Check under Furniture Repairing & Refinishing in the Yellow Pages.

Q. Our front door gets a lot of sun, and the finish peels periodically, so we have to strip it and re-finish. The door is metal, and has a coat of stain and several coats of marine varnish. How can we make the finish last longer?

A: If you want a varnished finish, you are using the correct type of varnish. Marine varnish or spar varnish will typically hold up better in the sun than other types of varnish, because these varnishes have better resistance to the sun's ultraviolet rays. Adding a couple extra coats of marine varnish the next time you re-finish should make the finish last longer. Other ways to get a longer-lasting finish are to screen the door from the sun by planting a tree or shrubs in strategic places, or to shade the door with an awning or roof.

The simplest alternative would be to switch to a painted finish. Because it has more pigment, paint has better resistance to ultraviolet light than clear finishes such as varnish.

Sunrooms as exercise rooms, offices

PRNEWswire

Active, hip and ready to spend, we're not talking about baby boomers, we're talking about baby boomers.

Today's mature adults don't rest on their laurels. As consummate workers, the 40- and 50-year-olds have even found ways to use the relaxing environment of a sunroom into a place to get things done. Today's sunroom uses include everything from exercise rooms to home offices, says Kim Schaefer of Patio Enclosures, Inc., manufacturer and installer of custom sunroom designs.

"Sunrooms aren't only about extending your home, they're about expanding your life," said Schaefer. Sunrooms not only add new space and ambiance, they also provide a drenched open feeling, and are reasonably priced investment. But today's sunroom buyer is looking beyond the expanded space to the opportunities they provide," said Schaefer.

According to a national research study, 57 percent of sunroom buyers are between the ages of 41 to 60. While their parents used sunrooms primarily for relaxing, baby boomers are taking better advantage of a sunroom's functionality. As this generation juggles family, friends and work, the home has become the center of many more activities.

For example, sunrooms often have the dual duties of serving as a home office during the day and a family entertainment center in the evening. Since the birth of the Internet, the American home is now being used more for telecommuting adults. Patio Enclosures features an in-wall electronic raceway which conceals wires but makes it possible to connect computer, fax, phone and cable systems. Interior lighting, an important feature for a home office, is also easier with a built-in wiring system.

Exercise rooms are another growing use. Boomers and gener-

ation-xers alike, put increased emphasis on exercise and physical well being, but have less and less time to dedicate to fitness programs.

Eliminating travel time by exercising at home is a major plus. A sunroom or solarium provides an ideal environment.

Enhancements, such as improved insulation and energy-efficient glass, make sunrooms more comfortable than ever for year-round use.

New easy-glide doors and brass hardware enhance the appearance.

"In the past, our key customer was older and the sunroom was purchased as a kind of reward for working hard."

"Now, we're seeing younger buyers who, while enjoying the relaxation, also find creative uses for sunrooms and solariums," said Schaefer.

Contact 800-480-1966 or visit www.patioenclosuresinc.com.

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 You will be delighted with this great 3 bedroom, 2 bath home situated in the heart of the coveted Rockridge district. This home has light, airy rooms, hardwood floors, fireplace, private back yard, basement with plus rooms, two-car garage and much more.

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Open Sunday, 1/20, 2-4:30



Richard Matus

Office: (510) 834-2010

Cellular: (510) 506-8896



Don't pay loan fee points when refinancing home loan

BY ROBERT J. BRUSS
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Dear Bob: You recently advised against paying loan fee points when refinancing a home loan. This makes good sense when paying refinance fees out of pocket because they are not tax-deductible in the year paid and can only be deducted over the mortgage's life. But what about rolling them into the new mortgage principal amount?

We have a five-year fixed-rate loan that becomes an adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) next year. My wife and I have decided we'll keep our home a long time. But we want to refinance with a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage. By rolling a two-point (2 percent of the amount borrowed) loan fee into the principal, we can lower our monthly payment, with no out-of-pocket costs. What do you think of this idea? — Robert L.

Dear Robert: Please shop around and compare loan terms offered by at least three mortgage lenders. There is no reason why you should have to add the cost of a 2 percent loan fee to your loan balance. In today's mortgage market, a two-point loan fee is very high. Unless you have bad credit or other problems, you can probably do much better.

My personal refinance experience is that a so-called "no cost" mortgage refinance should add about one-eighth percent to the loan's interest rate. For example, if 7 percent is the "going rate" for home loans with a one-point loan

fee, a "no cost" 30-year fixed-rate home loan should command 7.12 percent interest.

Adding 2 percent to your mortgage balance means you will be paying interest on that extra money for the next 30 years. To illustrate, suppose you are borrowing \$200,000. Adding a 2 percent loan fee means you will borrow \$204,000 for 30 years. Chances are you won't keep that loan for 30 years, due to home sale or another refinance. But you will owe that extra \$4,000 loan fee. You will probably be much better off paying a slightly higher tax-deductible interest rate, rather than adding a loan fee to your loan principal.

Widow was cheated by her late husband

Dear Bob: I have a friend whose husband of 10 years died recently. She learned he never added her name to the house he owned before their marriage. His will left everything to his children from a prior marriage. She was employed during the marriage and had a business of her own. Now his children are trying to take her business, too. She lives in a community property state. Isn't she protected for a share of her late husband's estate? — Dolly G.

Dear Dolly: Your friend should immediately consult an attorney who is experienced in probate and real estate law. A married homeowner is not required to add a new spouse to the title of previously

owned real estate, such as their residence. However, depending on state law, a non-owner spouse might acquire dower, curtesy or community property rights in that residence. Since your friend's marriage lasted only 10 years before her husband died, at best she might acquire an interest in the house's appreciated market value after the marriage. However, the husband's children from a first marriage shouldn't be able to claim any interest in the widow's business (unless other facts are involved, such as a loan to the business).

Can one spouse borrow on a house without other spouse's consent?

Dear Bob: I am separated from my wife. We are not divorced. Our children keep trying to get us back together. But I don't think it will work. I moved out of the house. My wife and our two kids still live there.

Although our house is titled in both our names, somehow my wife obtained a \$35,000 second mortgage on it. She wasn't able to keep up the payments. Our savvy son, age 16, showed me a letter from the mortgage company threatening foreclosure. My wife became very enraged when I showed her the pre-foreclosure letter.

As there is at least \$50,000 remaining equity in our house, what should I do to prevent loss by foreclosure? How could she borrow on our house without my signature? — Devin H.

Dear Devin: At best, a property co-owner can only borrow on their share of the property. Without your signature, I am shocked any lender would make a second mortgage loan on your co-owned residence.

Please hire a local real estate attorney to check the title status of your home. Perhaps your wife, without your knowledge, forged your signature on a quitclaim deed.

With a low 610 "FICO score," is there any home-buying hope?

Dear Bob: I don't know whether to praise or curse you. Several weeks ago you explained how prospective home buyers can check their credit ratings. Following your advice, I went to www.myfico.com, paid \$12.95, and obtained my credit report and FICO (Fair, Isaac and Co.) credit rating. I didn't realize how bad my credit is. My FICO score is only 610. I was hoping to buy a condo or maybe a small house. Is there any hope for me? — Dan G.

Dear Dan: Yes. Don't despair. Although you probably won't get a 100 percent mortgage, available to buyers with good jobs and good credit, you can still buy a home. FICO scores predict the probability of home mortgage default. Your score doesn't look good, as it is below the 620 minimum most lenders require.

Presuming your credit report doesn't have any errors, you'll have to live with your past credit mistakes, such as late payments. Some

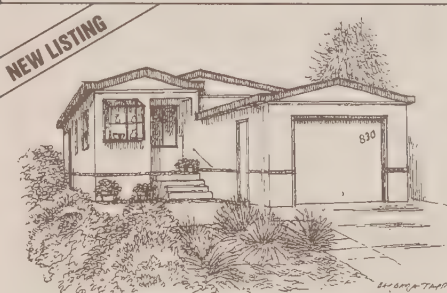
major lenders will make home loans to borrowers with FICO scores as low as 570. But the interest rate will be higher than if you had a credit score above 620. Also, you'll probably need at least a 10 percent to 20 percent cash down payment.

Other possibilities include buying a home on a lease with option

to buy (while you improve credit), taking over an existing mortgage from a motivated seller or seller financing.

More details in report "Buy Your Next Home or Invest Property for Zero Cash Down," \$4 from Robert Bruss, Park Rd., Burlingame, CA 94010.

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Wonderful 2 bedroom family home tucked away from the street in desirable Rockridge area. Enjoy the Bay view! The kitchen has been nicely remodeled. Hardwood floors and cozy fireplace add to the charm. Property features a spacious home office with separate entrance and level backyard for gardening & play! Enjoy the area's many interesting shops & restaurants and convenience to Bart for those forays into San Francisco. A true gem!

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Offered at \$589,000.

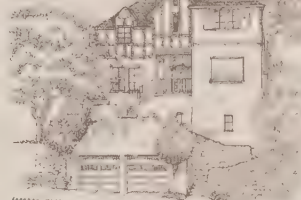
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NEW NORTH BERKELEY LISTING

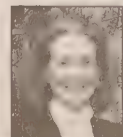
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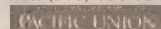
981 INDIAN ROCK AVENUE, BERKELEY

Lovingly restored and close to Solano & Shattuck Avenue this handsome 1930 Tudor offers views of the Bay and bridges, the crags of Indian Rock, and the charm of the Mt. Circle. The gracious central hall plan includes 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, generous rooms and fine period details.

Offered at \$695,000

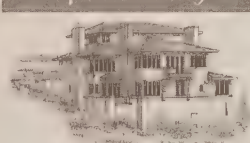


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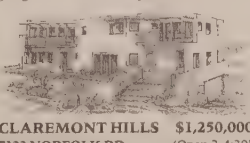
CLAREMONT HILLS \$2,295,000
27 DAWN ST. (Open 2-4:30)
Designed by Phillip Perkins w/exceptional architectural details. Approx. 1/2 acre on a private lane. Breathtaking views of SF & the Bay. 5BR/4BA. David Ichikawa x331



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$2,200,000
5926 MARGARITO DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Exquisite new custom built Mediterranean villa. 5BR/4.5BA, views, terraces, elevator, 4-car garage. Total quality & beauty. Photo tour @ pacunion.com. Dee Knowland x318



CLAREMONT \$1,575,000
614 ALVARADO RD. (Open 2-4)
Custom built re-creation of the original 1922 Colonial home. Exceptional quality & detailing. 4BR/3BA, 4 fp, SF & GG views, 2 garages. Leslie Easterday x363



CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,250,000
7133 NORFOLK RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 1 year old contemporary w/4BR/4.5BA. Unique design, great light. Master suite w/fireplace, lush canyon & bay views. Dee Knowland x318

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UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$895,000
108 SHERIDAN RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Terrific 6 year old 5BR/3.5BA. Light & airy loaded w/style. Easy living. Level-in, yard. Dee Knowland x318



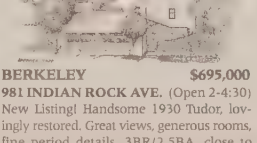
BERKELEY \$850,000
73 EL CAMINO REAL (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning Mediterranean in desirable Claremont neighborhood w/views of SF & Golden Gate Bridge. 3BR/2BA, formal dining, updated kitchen w/breakfast bar. Landscaped garden. Lee Jacobson x309



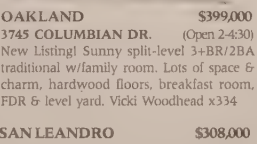
MONTCLAIR \$734,000
6097 COLTON BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
Level-in updated contemporary Ranch. Spectacular SF Bay & lush canyon views. Great space. Wonderful Montclair location. 4BR/3BA. Teri Carlisle x305

Open Sunday

BERKELEY \$695,000
981 INDIAN ROCK AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Handsome 1930 Tudor, lovingly restored. Great views, generous rooms, fine period details. 3BR/2.5BA, close to Solano & Shattuck Aves. Jack McPhail x300



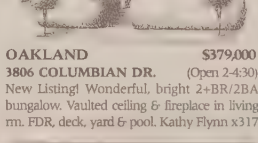
OAKLAND \$399,000
3745 COLUMBIAN DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Sunny split-level 3+BR/2BA traditional w/family room. Lots of space & charm, hardwood floors, breakfast room, FDR & level yard. Vicki Woodhead x334



SAN LEANDRO \$308,000
780 ST MARYS AVE. (Open 1-4)
New Listing! Charming bungalow in the heart of Estudillo Estates, minutes from line restaurants, coffee shops & Roosevelt School. 2BR/1BA, FDR, hardwood floors & private yard. Candy Benny x328

Open Sunday

OAKLAND \$379,000
3806 COLUMBIAN DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Wonderful, bright 2+BR/2BA bungalow. Vaulted ceiling & fireplace in living rm. FDR, deck, yard & pool. Kathy Flynn x317



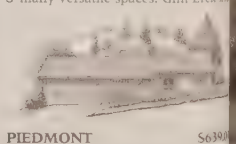
CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,875,000
5+BR/4.5BA. Splendid new home w/piano SF & GG views. Gourmet kit/lam rm. Luxury master suite. Approx. 1/2 acre. Nancy Noman x373



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,150,000
Charming English-style Tudor w/half timbers, gabled roofs & bay windows. Distinctive details w/great use of natural materials. 4BR/3.5BA. David Ichikawa x331

By Appointment

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$715,000
Sophisticated 1988 contemporary home designed for art and artful living. Wonderful open plan with 3BR/2.5BA & many versatile spaces. Gini Erck x339

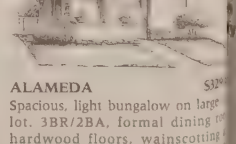


PIEDMONT \$638,000
Great views, great location, great opportunity! Great ideas could turn home into a gem. 2BR/2BA, dining room, deck, 2-car garage. Sandi Klemmer x300

CLAREMONT HILLS LOT \$600,000
San Francisco & Bay view lot framed by large greenbelt canyon. Private road, report, survey & architectural blueprints included. David Ichikawa x331

MONTCLAIR \$539,000
Santa-Fe style 3BR/2BA with 19th Level front garden, spacious decks, kitchen, new master baths, hardwood floors. Dick Cohen x308

MONTCLAIR \$499,000
3BR/2.5BA home in quiet & w/serene canyon views. High ceilings, open floor plan, large windows & bring the outside in. Near Montclair Village, schools & transportation. Moore x302



ALAMEDA \$329,000
Spacious, light bungalow on large lot. 3BR/2BA, formal dining room, hardwood floors, wainscoting, original bay windows. Nancy Chew x300

OAKLAND \$199,000
New Listing! Lovely 1BR/1BA, minimum overlooking Regional Fireplace. Rich Gould x347

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1178 HOLMAN ROAD

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Offered at \$565,000.



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Charming one-level home opens to deck and beautifully landscaped garden. This home has been updated and meticulously maintained. 2BR/1BA.

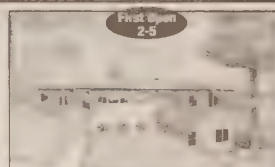
Sally Hendrickson 510-486-1495



1178 HOLMAN ROAD 3BR/2.5BA \$565,000

Move right in to this stately Crocker Highlands Traditional. Updated & loaded with Old World charm; formal dining room, updated kitchen, convenient commute location. Open Sun. 2-4:30

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6141 LAWTON AVENUE 3BR/2BA \$585,000

Updated Rockridge home with SF view; kitchen has new granite countertops, limestone floor & top quality appliances. Open Sun. 2-5

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RICHMOND/HILLTOP\$255,000
3BD/2BA, comfortable open floorplan, fireplace, on corner lot.
Barbara Marienthal.....510-486-1495

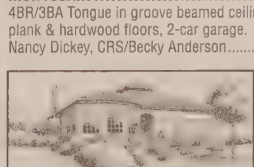
RICHMOND.....\$240,000
Good starter home. 2BR/1BA. Newer paint in & out, updated bath, newer roof, 6K lot!
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Josh Whitmer.....510-486-1495

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Westbrae Victorian! 2BD, restored period bathroom, restored kitchen, new electrical, plumbing & roof. Hdwd. floors. Plans/permits for accessory building.
David DeZerega.....510-486-1495

MONTCLAIR.....\$675,000
4BR/3BA Tongue in groove beamed ceilings in living/dining rooms, 2 fireplaces, random plank & hardwood floors, 2-car garage.
Nancy Dickey, CRS/Becky Anderson.....510-339-4700



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3BR/2BA Mediterranean built in 1994. Bay View, all level, HWF, FP, newer paint in/out, new garage door.
Nancy Dickey.....510-339-4700

MORAGA.....\$489,000
3BR/2.5BA Mediterranean-style, spacious townhouse only 15-years-old. Great floorplan, large eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage, FP, skylights.
Elena Stone.....510-339-4700

PIEDMONT AVENUE.....\$325,000
2BR/1BA Charming Cottage, level yard, walk to everything.
Evelyn Walker.....510-339-4700

OAKLAND.....\$315,000
4BR/2BA Large backyard, "fixer/as is". Don't miss it.
Mahnaz Judson.....510-339-4700

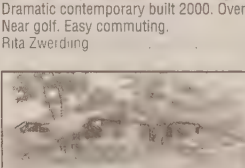
OAKLAND.....\$235,000
2BR/1BA New Kitchen & bath, hardwood floors thruout, bonus room, 2-car garage.
Reva Tolbert.....510-339-4700

FIRST OPEN

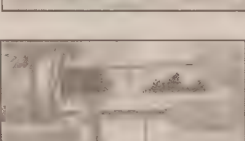
841 Creston Rd., Berkeley 2BR/1BA.....\$495,000 Sun 1-4
New Listing! Charming one-level home opens to deck & beautifully landscaped garden. Meticulously maintained, updated.
Sally Hendrickson.....510-486-1495

OPEN SUNDAY

13848 Campus Dr., Oakland/Ridgemont 4BR/2.5BA.....\$998,000 Sun 2-4
Dramatic contemporary built 2000. Overlooks Leona Open Space. Custom kitchen, deck. Near golf. Easy commuting.
Rita Zwerdling.....510-486-1495



25 Shawnee Court 4+BR/3BA \$799,000 Sun 1:30-4:00
Approx. 3300 sq. ft. of luxury, packaged in a level Contemporary on approx. 1/3 acre.
Jeffrey Neidleman.....510-339-4700



3306 Herrier,\$489,000 Sun 2-4
3+BD/2BA Big Bay View! Gorgeous level Redwood Heights home w/stunning SF Bay Views & level yard; updated! Open Sunday 2-4
Fritz Hochfellner.....510-339-4700

LOTS

0 Evergreen, Claremont.....\$325,000
Views facing SF Bay, large level area at bottom of lot.
Josh Whitmer.....510-339-4700

0 Broadway, Rockridge.....\$325,000
Over 21,000 sq. ft. w/tentative approval to be subdivided into 3 lots.
Darcy Diamantine.....510-339-4700

7207 Skyline, Montclair.....\$85,000
Canyon view, downslope w/soil report & survey.
Jon Dunn.....510-339-4700

5895 Grizzly Peak Blvd.....\$298,000
Five bridge view. Design review approved plans avail. for very contemporary home.
David Eckert.....510-339-4700



6137 LaSalle Avenue, Oakland
510.339.4700

1495 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley
510.486.1495

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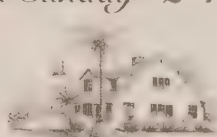
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~ Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. ~



6 Dormidera Avenue, Piedmont \$1,475,000
This elegant new country French masterpiece, in central Piedmont, has been exquisitely designed and rebuilt and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. Mindy Scott



231 Palm Drive, Piedmont \$849,000
Located on a wonderful Piedmont street is this charming 4BR home w/ cobblestone drive, formal dining room & family room w/fireplace & private deck. Katherine Cooper



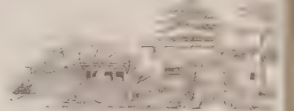
31 Bayforest Ct, Oakland Hills \$789,000
Dramatic 2++BR contemporary set above Claremont Hotel with soaring ceilings and spa. Bay views. Mavis D...



1700 Grandview Dr., Oakland Hills \$1,349,000
Classic Spanish Revival built in '99, above Claremont Hotel. 5BR/4BA, family room w/fireplace off kitchen, front courtyard & Bay view. Debra J. Dryden



1087 Hubert Rd, Crocker Highlands \$849,000
Storybook English rich with detail. 4+BR/3BA, breakfast room, office over garage and temperature controlled wine cellar. Linda McClain



3005 Holyrood Dr., Piedmont Pines \$1,199,000
Enjoy beautiful Bay views from this level-in-a-Piedmont Pines home. Master suite + 2 bedrooms + "plus" rooms. Michelle W...

~ By Appointment ~

Skyline View Estate \$2,500,000
Watch the sunset from this phenomenal new Spanish with approximately 6,500 sq. ft. Elevator. Front courtyard, terraces, level garden & only the finest finishes. Debra J. Dryden



Montclair Traditional \$689,000
Charming traditional 3BR/2BA on large level lot with views. Exquisite detailing throughout. Rumpus room & completely remodeled kitchen. Cherie Curliano

Charming Berkeley Home \$625,000
Spacious 3BR/2BA 2-story home! Eat-in kitchen opening to garden! 1/2 block from all urban amenities - restaurants, shops, & SF transportation. Workshop! Lori Lombardo



Montclair with Views \$499,000
Great value in Montclair, Bay views near the Village, kitchen/family room combo, 3BR/2BA upstairs plus home office with separate entrance. Judith Cain

Montclair Contemporary \$429,000
Great location near Montclair Village; this contemporary home offers a peek of the Bay in a wooded setting. 3BR/2BA and level-outdoor living. Judith...



Sophisticated Live/Work Loft \$299,000
Luxurious townhouse-style live/work loft. Roomy open spaces. Upgraded kitchen & bath. Rooftop garden patio. Donna D...

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Montclair



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Open Sunday 1/20



WONDERFUL FAMILY HOME! \$749,000
Custom re-built with 4 bedrooms and 4 baths, including 2 master suites. Spacious and sunny, this two story home is also perfect for extended families. Almost entirely rebuilt from top to bottom.
767 Santa Ray Rosie Nysaether 510-339-8400



BEAUTIFUL ONE LEVEL CONTEMPORARY \$589,000
In Montclair. 3+ Br, 2 updated baths, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, FDR. Fireplace in living room, huge level yard. Close proximity to the "Village".
5915 La Salle Ave. Gary Robinson 510-339-4000



ROCKRIDGE CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW \$565,000
All original detailing-built-in cabinets, desk and china cabinet, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, new roof, updated electric and forced air system. Walk to Rockridge Library, shops and BART.
5444 Manila Ave. Caroline Peters 510-339-8400

Open Sunday 1/20



EAGLES' NEST ON HEAVENLY LOT \$465,000
With panoramic Bay views. Two-bedroom home on more than half-acre of Parklike land with privacy and superb bay views. Also has detached office or studio.
4284 Maybelle Ave. Richard Keeling 510-339-4000



LOCATION PLUS CHARM \$478,000
Picture pretty brown shingle. Steps to Lake Merritt. Spacious 3 Br/2 Ba. Deep lot. Peek view of city and Lake. Home waiting to be restored to its former glory. Come see, make offer.
335 Hanover Ave. Teresa Chan 510-339-4000

By Appointment



START THE YEAR IN A SPECIAL HOME \$719,000
If you wait all year, you'll never find a better home! Exquisite architectural details include hardwood floors, arched doorways and beamed ceilings, lovely light-filled rooms and a new kitchen!
www.PatriciaBennett.com 510-339-8400

By Appointment

UPGRADED TO THE MAX! \$509,950
Situated on a cul-de-sac, this beauty won't last long at this price. Surpasses all the competition! Hardwood/slate floors, all new doors, finished garage, new bath vanity & more! A must see!
Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200



NEW LISTING! \$369,000
"Pre-sale Offer" on almost completed home in Millsmont area. Ready for special buyer to add final touches! 3/2, including master suite, formal living and dining room, large private back yard and city views from your own private deck.
Rosie Nysaether 510-339-8400

JUST LIKE HOME \$349,000
Condo convenience belongs to you in this delightfully open and bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Located in a 4-unit complex, you have control of your environment. Spend your weekends relaxing on your private patio or take a stroll to the shops and restaurants of nearby 4th Street. Walking distance to North Berkeley BART.
Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400



CUTE LAUREL DISTRICT STARTER \$310,000
Bright and cheery, this 2/1 bungalow also offers an in-law above detached garage. Great value.
Rosie Nysaether 510-339-8400

By Appointment



UNIQUE MEDITERRANEAN CONDO \$1,199,000
2 Bed/2 Bath desirable back location with SF view, washer and dryer, tandem 2 car garage. Close to BART.
Torill Harge 510-339-8400

PROBATE LISTING:
Duplex, side by side units. Both 1 Br/1 Ba. and 2 car garage. Convenient Allendale Park location. Let's rent the other. Put in a bid! A good value.
Teresa Chan 510-339-8400

COMING SOON!
2 Bedroom/2 Bath condo in well-maintained central Adams Point area. New carpet, fresh paint, decorator perfect.
Rosie Nysaether 510-339-8400

Income Property



30 UNIT APARTMENT BUILDING \$1,199,000
Very well kept in great location. Fantastic unit mix, parking, laundry. Close to shops and transportation. Approx. \$348K Gr.
Hal Marcus 510-339-8400

For more information on residential property, call 510-339-8400 or visit our website at www.grubbco.com

Planning to remodel your home?

Free seminar shows you how to make it a success

If you or someone you know is considering a professional remodel, "Your Remodel: How To Make It A Success!" can show you how to maximize the value and rewards of your project as well as minimize frustration. This seminar will be held Thursday, Feb. 7 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the new Orinda library, 24 Orinda Way in Orinda.

Paul Winans of Winans of Winans Construction, Inc. will cover such topics as pre-design and zoning, understanding the design process, tips for setting a realistic budget during a period of ever-increasing costs, choosing and working with a professional contractor, and the specific steps you can take to ensure that your project is successful.

A recipient of numerous local and national awards, Winans Construction is a 24-year-old firm specializing in residential remodeling in the East Bay. Co-owners Paul and Nina Winans are both National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) Certified Remodelers. Paul has given many seminars to homeowners over the past several years and writes the *From the Ground Up* column on construction for Hills Publications.

You can visit their Web site at www.winconline.com Call 510-653-7288 to pre-register.

To contact the real estate editor, call 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com

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OAKLAND/PIEDMONT

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$1,025,000
16 Observation Place. Spectacular 4 BR/3 BA w/great view, special details, decks and terraces.

Bob Randall
(510) 339-9290

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$799,000
939 Hillcroft Circle. Charming 4 BR/3 BA Storybook Tudor w/widw. flrs., lg. yard and quiet st.

Millie Lombardi
(510) 339-9290



★Open Sun. 2-4 \$789,000
6901 Chambers Drive. Custom Home With Large Level Yard. 75% New Contemporary, 4+ BD, 2 BA, vaulted ceilings, deck and patio on 1/4 acre.

Colette Ford
(510) 845-0211

Coming Soon! \$675,000
Well-Maintained 3 BR/1.5 BA w/bkfst. rm. off kit. Lge. sun/family rm. Bsmr., 2-car gar. Desirable st. & area.

Lisbeth Hibbard
(510) 849-3711
(510) 464-4498

★Open Sun. 2-5 \$649,000
Hill Highlands Price Reduced! Fabulous 3 BR/2.5 BA, skylights, vaulted ceilings, 2 frplcs., bright lot.

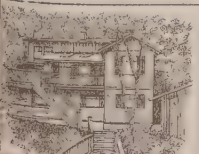
Ivan & Michael
(510) 597-1303
(510) 527-9800

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$595,000
3692 Calafia. Lovely, new, 3 BR/3 BA + bonus rm., hwd. floors and decks. New listing!

Sharon Ho
(510) 339-9290

★Open Sun. 2-4 \$589,000
332 Modoc. Bay Views! 2 BR, FDR, home ofc. w/entry, remodeled kitchen, more!

Logene Butler
(510) 524-2526



Montclair Cottage \$525,000
Quiet, secluded, charming! Includes babbling brook! Close-in to Village. Flexible space, 3-BR/3BA.

Julie Lehman
(510) 845-0211

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$425,000
3351 Monterey Boulevard. Craftsman 2+ BR/2 BA w/legal 2nd unit. Huge lot, privacy.

Richard Matus
(510) 834-2010

A Fabulous Co-op \$385,000

Lake Merritt elegance in move-in condition in prestigious bldg. w/1608 sq. ft. Closets galore + parking.

Caroline Slotemaker de Bruine
(510) 287-8856

Fruitvale Victorian \$380,000
Lovely rehabed home with 4 BR/2 BA in-law. New foundation, orig. detail, 10 ft. ceilings, huge attic.

Roxanne Bruns
(510) 869-5609

Fabulous Bay View! \$337,000
Lovely tradit. in Oak Hills! 3 BR/1 BA, formal dining, nearly 1/4 acre. Frplc., hrdwd., 2 car garage!

Janet
(510) 845-0200

Near Piedmont Ave. \$290,000
2 BR, 2 BA in unit washer/dryer, 2 Decks. Newer appliances. Grt. street. Upgrades galore! See online! pruweb.com/camille.rogers

Camille M. Rogers
(510) 845-0200

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$285,900
4118 Fullington. 2 BR/1 BA, totally renovated, new kitchen & bath, hwd. floors, garage.

Penny Schultz
(510) 834-2010

The Price is Right! \$279,000
Beautiful, big 4 BR/2.5 BA with hardwood floors and new paint in and out.

Bill Boze
(510) 339-9290

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$184,900
2324 Coolidge. Remodeled 3 BR, 1 BA.

Mark Mata
(510) 834-2010

1 Bedroom Condo \$145,000
Madison Street Condo, Lake Merritt, downtown Oakland. Needs some TLC. Good location.

Terri Wong & Peter Paun
(510) 834-2010

EMERYVILLE

Emeryville Cottage \$285,000
Rare 2 BR starter home close to everything! Large lot, detached studio, great location.

Tom Modic
(510) 547-0303
(510) 849-3711

SAN LORENZO

★Open Sun. 2-4 \$325,000
17024 Via Pasatiempo. Beautiful Village home in move-in condition. A must see. 3 BR, 1 BA, updated kitchen.

Jorge Jimenez
(510) 337-8670

CASTRO VALLEY

Castro Valley \$550,000
Great 2-story, 6 BR/3 BA w/big mst. suite. Super motivated seller. Make an offer!

Craig Shane
(510) 339-9290

BERKELEY/ALBANY

★Open Sun. 2-4 \$599,950
1589 Scenic. Walk to Campus! 2+ BR w/in-law. New kitchen, excellent condition!

Terrence Jue
(510) 524-2526

Fab Albany Condo \$289,000

Condo with Bay views. Fresh paint, new carpet, tile. 1 BR + den, 2 full BA. 24 Hour security.

Dave/Carla
(510) 433-9739
(510) 845-0211

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY



Mediterranean Estate \$1,730,000
Gated Villa on over 1 acre! 6+ BR/4 BA, pool, sports court & spectacular S.F. Bay views!

Marnie Mufti Fricke
(510) 526-1906
(510) 849-3711

★Open Sun. 2-4 \$280,000

5303 Van Fleet. Bonus Room Close to transportation & new El Cerrito Plaza! Home features 2 BR/1 BA plus big bonus room.

Margarita Mino
(510) 873-0187
(510) 527-9800

Move-In Condition! \$185,000
2 BR, 1.5 BA condo with garage. Creekside setting.

Yvonne Carter
(510) 235-3937
(510) 849-3711

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$725,000

424 Avon Street. Best location. 4 Units, xlnt. condition. 2-2 BR, 2-1 BR, new roof, many upgrades.

(510) 834-2010

Elmhurst 4-Plex! \$369,000
Well-Maintained 4-Plex has 2 units w/2 BR, 1 BA and 2 units 1 BR, 1 BA. Seller Motivated!

Herb Manor
(510) 339-9290

★Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$319,000
548/550 - 42nd Street. Large 1/1 flats, new roof and paint. Delivered vacant.

Howard Converse
(510) 339-9290

LOTS FOR SALE

4 Great Lots - \$598,000

South Bay Views, contiguous lots with gas & electric in a neighborhood of million dollar homes. Exc. oppy. in Berk-Oak hills.

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6153 Girvin Dr.

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\$995,000



6155 Girvin Dr.

5 Bedrooms / 3.5 baths. Luxurious 2-room master suite. Grand, spatial & elegant. Granite kitchen w/comm. Viking range, 3-Car garage

\$1,198,000

BOTH are level-in, superbly constructed and finished, and with unique Bay Views!

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Another Beautiful Crocker Highlands Home
4 Bedroom, 4 Bath, Complete Remodel
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\$749,000

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KENSINGTON



31 Arlington Avenue

Sweeping views of Bay & Bridges; 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gleaming hardwood floors; internal access and stair lift from garage, one level living & patio access, close to elementary school, library, & "Youth Hut!"

Tricia Swift x140

\$460,000

BERKELEY



2700 Dana
Close to Campus

Stately Edwardian with beautiful original detail & built-ins! 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, den, formal dining, eat-in kitchen! Close to campus!

Bebe McRae x145

\$750,000



Exceptional Mediterranean

In the North Berkeley Hills! This 4 bdrm home has been entirely renovated w/great taste & beautiful finishes. Bay views & large yard make this a rare opportunity.

Bebe McRae x145

\$995,000



542 Santa Barbara Rd.

Location is the ultimate amenity! North Berkeley 5+ bedrooms and 2+ baths. Versatile interior spaces, fabulous views of SF and Golden Gate Bridge. Finished attic and roof deck. Separate garden studio. Walk to coffee.

Ruth Frassetto x147

\$925,000

484 Vassar Avenue
Fabulous, Unobstructed Bay Views!
Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath with craftsman touches. Light filled, great floor plan for entertaining. Big yard & wonderful 2nd unit with separate access.

Anne Van Dyke x137

\$799,000

54 Vicente Road
Views & Location

Rare, large parcel of view land in fabulous location near the Claremont Hotel. Two parcels were merged to create this incredible 32,000 sq. ft. lot. Mostly level, neighborhood of distinguished homes.

Faye Keogh x126

\$1,650,000

Coming Soon

Captivating and sophisticated North Berkeley Hills home. Newly renovated 4bd/3ba. Kitch/fam. room level garden and more.

Helene Barkin x124

\$795,000

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BEC offers two free lectures tomorrow

The Building Education Center on Page Street, in Berkeley is offering two free lectures for the Do It Yourselfer.

The first lecture is "What You Need to Know before You Build or Remodel" by builder Glen Kitzberger. There are two opportunities for the Kitzberger lecture tomorrow and Monday, Jan. 21.

The second lecture "Choosing to Add On: Pros and Cons of Building an Addition" is also planned for tomorrow. The presenter is author/designer Skip Wenz.

The Building Education Center in Berkeley provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation.

There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. For example, "Basic Home Repair and Improvement Skills," a hands-on workshop taught by carpenter Rodney Kooyman, is offered on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 26 and 27.

For more information about these lectures or other classes call 510-525-7610.

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NEW LISTING
312 ANDERSON RD.
Elegant 4 Bdrm./2.5 bath home on Harbor Bay. Many custom upgrades!!! Tastefully Decorated! \$650,000.
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 PM.

ALAMEDA
1724 VERSAILLES AVE.
Exquisite Home 4+ BDRM/3 BATH. Fabulous Edison School & Superb Farnside location. \$629,000
PENDING

SAN LEANDRO
14248 QUINCY DR.
3 BDRM. 3 BATH, 2 garages. \$329,000
PENDING

NEW LISTING
2507 GALLEON PLACE.
3 Bdrm./2.5 Ba. Townhome at Marina Seagate. \$335,000.

14406 SEASIDE DR.
2 BDRM. 3 BATH Townhome at Marina Seagate. \$299,000
SOLD

14265 SEASIDE DR.
"D" Model 3 BDRM. 2.5 BATH Townhome. \$340,000
SOLD

Montclair Better Homes is pleased to announce joining with Mahin Rajabi



Mahin has been a Bay Area resident for nearly 20 years. She has devoted her life to working with and for people. Having an experienced career in law, management and sales, she provides you with a high level of customer service and strong client relations. She will always be on your side.

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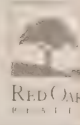


Red Oak Realty is very pleased to announce that Izumi Tada has joined our Solano office. A Realtor in the East Bay for many years, Izumi looks forward to serving his many clients and friends in the future from Red Oak Realty, voted #1 real estate office in the East Bay.



Izumi Tada
510-280-2153

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25 Shawnee Court - Oakland
\$799,000

Hilltop Contemporary

Space and elegance take on a whole new meaning in this stunningly conceived contemporary. Walls of glass, incredible private grounds, .30 acre lot, and an elegant timeless floor design make this almost level 4+ BD, 3 BA home a very rare find!



Fritz Hochfellner
510-339-4766

virtual tours
www.fritzsellshomes.com



New Construction! \$1,995,000
Absolutely Stunning! Very unique home with views of SF Bay and Golden Gate Bridge. Quality construction. Approx. 5200 sq. ft., 4 large bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, bonus room, gourmet kitchen, wine cellar, extensive use of hardwood. An Architectural Masterpiece!
Bonnie Freitas (925) 997-9062



Contemporary Craftsman \$1,198,000
Magnificent 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath Piedmont Pines new construction. Unique floor plan provides exceptional space. Luxury appointments and dramatic colors by Claudia. Tree framed Bay view of San Francisco.
Christian Downer (510) 339-8900 x259



New Piedmont Pines \$995,000
State of the art 5 bedroom/4.5 bath new construction. Unique design & colors accent the panoramic Bay view. Separate quarters for au-pair, in-law or home office.
Jody Dworzak (510) 339-8900 x299



Wonderful & Immaculate! \$545,000
Enjoy this spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath home w/fabulous gourmet granite kitchen, soaring ceilings, and on a large lot w/patio and play area. A fabulous home!
Sharon Williams (925) 456-5075



Truly Elegant "Condo Comfort" \$319,500
New-to-market 2-story serenity, but with SF express bus @ front door. FP, wet bar, in-unit laundry, 2 car secure parking. 13-unit mature/stable complex. Worthy of a magazine cover.
D.C. Hodges (510) 531-7667



Charm Galore! \$279,000
Just listed! 1925 California bungalow in move-in condition. It features a living room with fireplace, spacious formal dining room and large family style kitchen with separate eat-in area. This 2 bdrm home is a short walk to Bayfair Mall, BART and cinema. A very special property!
Dana Cohen (510) 339-8900 x248



Lakeside Condo \$265,000
Quiet end-unit 2 bedroom/2 bath condo. Spacious floor plan with large patio and a peek of the Lake. Convenient location close to two BART stations, downtown and China town. Secure, well-maintained building.
Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900 x230



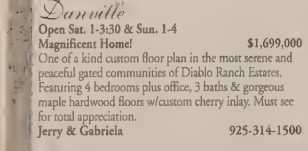
New Listing \$245,000
Pristine 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo in Parkwoods, "Golden Gate" model with a view of the Bay and San Francisco. Amenities include: pool/spa, fitness center, clubhouse, greenbelt and security.
Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900 x230



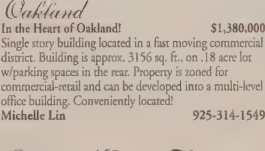
Investment Property East Oakland
1 BDRM units. Large yard NR East 14th St.
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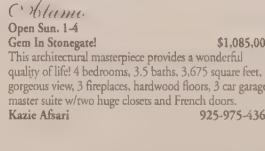
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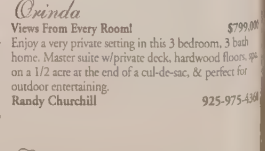
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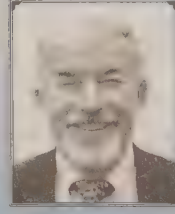
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SPORTS

• Friday, January 18, 2002 •

Section C

Inside McGreehan: Monday night gridlock [C2]

Inside 'Black Hawk' a strong dose of history [C3]

Advantage to Alameda

K sinks Yellow Jackets — first league loss; Panthers win

By Bill Kruissink
STAFF WRITER
ALAMEDA — In cool air and a rough field, the Alameda Hornets edged the Yellow Jackets 3-2 in their first league game.

Alameda's Chris Dahl (right) fought for possession of the ball with Berkeley's Chris Davis (left) during the game. Playing at Thompson Field on Jan. 15, the Hornets edged the Yellow Jackets 3-2.

For Berkeley (7-4-2, 6-1 in the ACCAL), which had not trailed in a league game all season, it was a stunning loss.

"We came out kind of lackluster — like nobody could touch us," said Yellow Jacket forward Kamani Hill, who'd scored the tying goal just six minutes before. "We weren't used to the surface — playing on grass."

Berkeley plays its home games on smooth AstroTurf, whereas the surface of Thompson Field was pockmarked, the result of months of football and soccer.

"Both teams play on the same field," Hornet coach Jack Cooley said. "The turf is a big advantage, but the (Yellow Jackets) play half their games on grass and they play all their club games on grass."

Whatever the reasons, Alameda (7-7, 4-3) was all over the game in the early going. Taking away the Yellow Jackets' long-ball game by clogging the center of the field, Alameda spent much of the first half on Berkeley's end of the field.

"Our center mids — we played right into their hands," Berkeley coach Janu Juarez said. "We had to play the ball in the center a lot more than them."

The Hornets didn't have long to wait before repaying the rewards. Four minutes into the contest, Dahl boomed a shot from 20 yards out and scored going left to left.

Eleven minutes later, mid-



IN A FOOTRACE, Berkeley's Chris Davis (right) and Alameda's Chris Dahl fought for possession of the ball. Playing at Thompson Field in Alameda on Jan. 15, the Hornets edged the Yellow Jackets 3-2.

fielder Chris Norton followed a corner kick by Robert Puryear into the net to make it 2-0.

Dahl said the club tried not to think about its lead.

"After scoring a goal, you just have to act like it's a zero-zero game. That's how you have to play," he said. "You have to play defense just as hard. You can't let the lead give you a big head."

That the lead didn't hold says tons about Berkeley's play on the pitch.

For the next 13 minutes, the score did not change — but not for a lack of trying. The Hornets maintained a slight edge in offensive possession, but the gap was closing fast and nowhere was that more clear than in the Hornet cage, where keeper

Bryan Thomas was soon under siege.

Hill unleashed a couple of shots and Liam Reilly ripped a shot that would have found the net had it not smashed into the top bar first. The ball smacked to the ground and began slowly rolling toward the cage. Thomas managed to get his mitts on the ball to prevent the goal.

Long about minute 25, Alameda picked up the first of three yellow cards. Ten minutes later, the Hornets would have another. Still, Berkeley would lose a goal to an offside call and lose the game on a penalty kick before the match was over.

Back on the field, the Yellow Jackets broke through for their first goal when Reilly scored fol-

lowing a throw-in by Hill with 12 minutes to go in the half. With the gap now one goal, Berkeley began fiercely attacking Alameda's defense. Sending the ball quickly to midfield, the Yellow Jackets managed to squeeze several shots off before the whistle sounded, ending the half.

Thomas had five saves in the first 40 minutes of play. Berkeley cager David Present-Thomas just two.

The clubs were soon at each other in the second half. Hill just missed scoring on a vicious crossing shot four minutes into the half and Berkeley back Sam Geller stopped a hot kick by Alameda's Ahmad Hatfie a minute later.

Minutes after, much of the

Berkeley offense was at the Alameda box. Set up on Geller's throw-in, Hill appeared to score a clean goal. But the referee quickly whistled for an offside call.

"You live and die by those calls," Cooley said.

Alameda lived. But two minutes after the offside, Berkeley picked up a penalty shot. With a chance to tie the match, Hill squared up, then laced the ball into the net. Just 14 minutes had elapsed in the half. With 26 minutes to go, the score was knotted 2-2.

"A lot of the time, players will let (a game-tying goal) get into their heads," Dahl said. "We've

See SOCCER, Page C2

Basketball roundup

Franklin lifts Jackets

Scores with two seconds left to down Alameda; CCC stops Merritt

ALAMEDA — Lee Franklin hit for two points with two seconds left on the clock to lift the Berkeley Yellow Jackets over the Alameda Hornets 54-52.

The Hornets (7-8, 1-2 ACCAL) led 28-25 at the half, but the Yellow Jackets climbed into the lead with a 21-11 pushing the third period.

The lead did not hold. Alameda evened the score in the closing seconds. But Shawn Burl sent an ally-oop pass to Franklin, who scored for the win.

Nate Simmons paced the Yellow Jackets (8-7, 2-1) with 12 points. Dante Hall had 10, including one of three Berkeley 3-pointers. Alex Flemming led the Hornets with 12 points, including a pair of 3-pointers.

Richmond 61, El Cerrito 56
EL CERRITO — The Oilers (2-5, 1-1) led the Gauchos (4-10, 2-1) all the way. Richmond led 29-21 at the half.

Terrence Henderson was the only Gaucha to score in double figures, hitting for 11 points.

Kimathi Harris poured in 23 points, Tashaka Merriweather added 14, Mike Fountilla 13 for the Oilers.

Prep girls' basketball

El Cerrito 58, Richmond 18
The Gauchos overpowered the Oilers, limiting Richmond (0-2 in the ACCAL) to single digits in scoring in every quarter, to secure the win.

The win raised El Cerrito to 2-0 in the ACCAL (4-9 overall).

Gaucha Marqueta Green had 19 points, 10 assists and 11 steals in the win. Analiese McGrew added 10.

Men's college basketball

Contra Costa 97, Merritt 93
The Comets (8-12, 1-2 in the Bay Valley Conference) had a two-point lead, 42-40, at the half, then held on to win.

Maurice Braxton hit for 21 points, including four 3-pointers, in the win.

See ROUNDUP, Page C2

Sneed can only get better

Panthers' 21 points parks lethargic Panthers

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER
PIEDMONT — She's only a freshman, but Shantrell Sneed will be the next big thing in Bay Area high school basketball.

Prep girls' basketball
St. Mary's 61
Piedmont 30

This is the question on everyone's mind: Is that all there is?

Sneed, who lives in El Cerrito, stands 5-foot-9 and, suffice to say, there is room for her to grow. How tall will she be when she is junior or senior?

son's North Coast Section team and are still trying to find a foundation. St. Mary's, while not the best team in the league, will be one of the top Division IV teams in the East Bay by the time the BSAL and North Coast Section playoffs roll around.

Against Piedmont, the Panthers raced out to a 16-3 lead after one quarter and that pretty much set the tone for the rest of the game. Sneed scored on an inside move and hit a jumper for four points, but center Kamaia Warren scored five points and Nattie Fripp hit a 3-point shot just seconds before the quarter ended.

The Highlanders made a small run in the second quarter as Ali Flato, the Highlanders' leading scorer, scored on a layup with 4:08 left to cut the margin to 20-11. The Panthers denied Flato the opportunity to create plays and her confidence withered; she scored just two points and hardly played in the second half.

Warren scored her only basket of the second quarter to extend the gap to 22-11, but Piedmont's Anika Boyce hit two free throws to cut the lead back down to nine points at 22-13. The Highlanders never got any closer; it was 24-13 at the half.

The Panthers gradually ex-

tended the lead to 36-18 after three quarters with Sneed scoring seven of her team's 12 points in the third period.

St. Mary's finally acted like St. Mary's in the fourth quarter, scoring 25 points. Sneed had six points and Meghan Leary and Heidi Spurgeon each had five. Those three players were important; it was also important the seven Panthers players scored in the period.

It was also important that St. Mary's finally got around to hitting some free throws; in an increasingly physical game, the Panthers hit 13 of 15 attempts from the line in the fourth quarter and were 20 of 37 for the game.

"We might have psyched ourselves out in the first half because Piedmont is one of our major rivals, but once we calmed down and played the way we could, it was OK," Sneed said.

"I didn't like our free-throw shooting in the first half (the Panthers were 3-for-16 in the first two quarters)," coach Donnie Lawson said, "but we were flat. It was hard for us to get up for someone we thought we could beat. It took us some time."

But when it came right down to it, St. Mary's had Sneed and

See PANTHERS, Page C2



HER EYES ON THE BASKET, Shantrell Sneed, seen here in a recent game, scored 21 points against Piedmont on Jan. 11. Playing in Piedmont, the Panthers downed the Highlanders 61-30.

Cruisers wheelin' east

Wheelchair hoopsters claim western titles, head to nationals

Go east, young western kings. The Bay Cruisers, wheelchair youth-basketball teams based in Berkeley, won two western championships this past weekend. Both teams will journey to Lake Shore, Ala., for nationals this winter.

The varsity (ages 14- to 18-years-old) edged the Rancho Renegades of Downey, Ca., in 55-50 thriller. Among the Bay Cruisers' standouts was captain and point guard Lamile Perry, a Berkeley High senior.

In the prep division (13-and-under), the Bay Cruisers won another nailbiter, 16-14, over the Spokane Tornado. The preps, like the varsity, are coed, and pacing the hosts was the precocious Christine Burke. The Danville sixth grader dominated the scoring with 12 points.

See CRUISERS, Page C2

CCNews prep basketball polls

BOYS' BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Oakland Tech	15-3	Bulldogs escape Oakland upset bid, flatten Skyline
2.	De La Salle	10-3	Prepares for MLK showdown against Oakland Tech
3.	California	15-0	Grizzlies survive scare at Foothill behind George Tuckers's 29 points
4.	St. Mary's	14-2	Panthers defeat St. Elizabeth and Piedmont by more than 30 points each
5.	Acalanes	11-2	Looks strong in league wins over Campolindo, Dublin
6.	Monte Vista	14-2	Averaged 85.5 points in first two EBAL victories
7.	Northgate	12-2	Continues to be one of the best defensive teams in the area
8.	Bishop O'Dowd	12-2	Dragons extend win streak to 10 with two HAAL victories
9.	St. Joseph	13-3	Puts St. Mary's loss behind it, topples Piedmont by 35
10.	Amador Valley	12-4	Dons are winners of their last five; Thomas Juillierat is area's leading scorer

Others receiving votes: Pinole Valley (9-3), Oakland (10-7). Records are through Monday.

Girls' basketball poll

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Amador Valley	12-2	Four players score in double figures in the Dons' 67-38 win over San Ramon Valley
2.	Miramonte	12-2	Matadors off to 3-0 start in Diablo Foothill Athletic League play
3.	Northgate	15-0	Broncos still waiting to meet their match, could come Tuesday against Miramonte
4.	Oakland Tech	12-5	Senior Aina Kemanis scored 20 points, leads Bulldogs to win over Skyline
5.	Berkeley	8-7	Yellow Jackets to face national power Marin Catholic on Saturday at Acalanes Shootout
16.	Oakland	11-7	Wildcats upset by Oakland Tech in league opener 56-52
16	Castlemont	12-5	Knights to battle Miramonte at Acalanes Shootout
8.	Alhambra	9-4	Bulldogs held to season-low 30 points in 43-30 setback to Northgate
9.	Pittsburg	13-2	Pirates beat league rival Carondelet by six (58-52)
10.	Kennedy	12-4	Eagles dominate in past two games, win by average of 33.5 points

Others receiving votes: Skyline (16-3), Moreau Catholic (13-1), Newark Memorial (10-5). Records through Tuesday.

The Times prep basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is voted on by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers.

Soccer

FROM PAGE C1

had problems with that in the past."

But with 20 minutes to go, it was Alameda's turn at a penalty shot. When a Hornet was taken down in the box, Dahl was sent in to fire away. He unleashed a rocket that expanded the upper reaches of the net on impact.

"I know (Hill) and it was just nice (to convert)," Dahl said. "You just have to be calm and confident and put it away."

Alameda held on even as Berkeley picked up the pace. David Ngov's shot with eight minutes left proved to be Thomas' final save, but the Yellow Jackets went down swinging. When the whistle blew, both teams knew they'd been in a battle.

"It was a helluva game — high intensity," Cooley said.

Postgame

FOR THE RECORD: Last winter, Alameda topped Berkeley 1-0 at Thompson Field. But back at Berkeley, the Yellow Jackets returned the favor, winning 1-0 on the turf.

The two clubs play in Berkeley Feb. 7 — the final match of the regular season. Game time is 5:15 p.m.

SCHEDULES: Berkeley played Hercules on Thursday night (past press time). On Tuesday, Jan. 22, the Yellow Jackets host the Encinal Jets (4-6-2, 2-4) at 3:30 p.m.

Two days later, the Yellow Jackets are in El Cerrito (5-7, 4-2) for a 5:15 p.m. match.

St. Mary's 3, Swett 1
CROCKETT — After John Swett's Morgan Edwards opened the scoring, St. Mary's countered with a string of goals to beat John Swett (0-5 Bay Shore Athletic League) 3-1 in BSAL action. Luis Lopez and Patrick McMahon scored for St. Mary's



IN A HEAD-TO-HEAD CONFRONTATION, Alameda's Robbie Hild and Berkeley's Chris Davis kept the ball in play.

(6-9-1, 4-0-1 BSAL) in the first half. The Panthers' Ben Feldman added a second-half goal.

Prep girls' soccer

El Cerrito 2, Richmond 1

Trailing 1-0 midway in the first half, the Gauchos (10-1-1, 5-1-1 in the ACCAL) rallied to win on two goals by Kirsten Eames.

Eames' first goal was on a penalty kick, her second, scored three minutes into the second half, on an assist by Elizabeth Morrison

Jenna Brace had six saves in the winning cause.

St. Mary's 7, John Swett 0

The Panthers routed the Indians, striking for three goals in the first half and four in the second. Panther keeper Ashley Frazier recorded seven saves in picking up the shutout.

Parras Vega scored four goals in the win and assisted Caelin Bonan in scoring the club's fifth goal.

The win evened the Panthers' record in league at 2-2 (5-3 overall) and dropped the Indians to 0-4 in the BSAL. Salesian remains atop the league with a 5-0 record (10-1 overall).

a lot to do to improve."

Now that's a scary thought.

Postgame

STATS: Besides her 21 points, Shantrell Sneed also grabbed 10 rebounds, one behind team leader Kamaiya Warren. Warren had nine points; Meghan Leary finished with 14 ... Heidi Spurgeon finished with five assists and five steals.

ON TRACK: Warren is a serious contender for both the state shot and discus titles in June.

"I figure I'll have to throw 47

(feet in the shot) and 170 in the discus to have a chance," she said.

Warren will have to improve by at least three feet in the shot and 12 in the discus, based on her PRs. She could do it.

SCHEDULE: The Panthers played host to Salesian on Thursday, a game moved from today due to a dance recital at the school ... St. Mary's' next game is Tuesday in Vallejo against St. Patrick/St. Vincent. Game time is 7 p.m.

post the ACCAL victory.

Trailing 3-0, El Cerrito got on the board when Spencer Selak converted on a penalty kick with seven minutes to go. Gaucho keepers Michael Gonzalez and Daniel Czernlossky combined for eight saves.

The win lifted the Oilers into a tie with Berkeley, 3-2 losers to Alameda, for first place in league with a 6-1 record. El Cerrito slipped to 4-2 (5-7 overall).

Roundup

FROM PAGE C1

and David Harris had 18 with a trio of 3-pointers. Jason Anderson chipped in 16 points to the winning cause.

Prep boys' soccer

Richmond 3, El Cerrito 1

RICHMOND — The Oilers broke open a scoreless tie, scoring three second-half goals, to

Monday night gridlock

The year was 1970. Richard Nixon was in the White House and the war in Vietnam raged on. It was the year of Kent State and the botched Apollo 13 space mission. And in other news, the Beatles broke up and Muhammad Ali returned to the ring.

Professional football also entered a new era as the AFL merged into the NFL. And on Sept. 21 that year, we in this country witnessed the birth of another phenomenon when the Cleveland Browns hosted the New York Jets in ABC's inaugural broadcast of "Monday Night Football."

Monday Night Football was new, it was vibrant. ABC's approach to broadcasting those games was a breath of fresh air. And the freshness and vitality continued through the '70s and into the early '80s.

TNT's original made-for-TV movie "Monday Night Mayhem" recalls the energy of those times.

Some might scoff at the idea of television portraying television, but Monday Night Mayhem works.

Monday Night Mayhem centers mostly on the love-hate relationship between Howard Cosell, the commentator who made Monday Night Football a hit, and Rooney Arledge, the head of ABC Sports who set up the groundwork for Monday Night Football after convincing his network to buy the rights to the telecasts. Cosell and Arledge often were friendly.

But just as often they were a thorn in each other's side. Professionally, though, both men sensed they needed each other.

John Turturro gives a convincing performance as Cosell, and John Heard is Arledge. Nicholas Turturro portrays Chet Forte, Monday Night Football's talented, yet gambling-addicted, director.

Yes, Monday Night Football — at least back then — brought a lot of talented people together, starting with Arledge, the visionary.

Three men in a broadcast booth was unheard of before Monday Night Football. But Arledge, Forte and the three guys Arledge hired to man the broadcast booth made it work.

Keith Jackson joined Cosell



MIKE MCGREEHAN
Between the Lines

and Don Meredith in the booth that first year. Frank Gifford replaced Jackson at the start of the second year. And Alex Karras took over for Meredith from 1974 through '76. Whatever the lineup, the MNF crew was Beatles of the '70s. And at the center of it all was Cosell.

As it was on Monday Night Football, so it is on Monday Night Mayhem, where Cosell's character takes center stage, whether on the air, in the office or at home with wife Emmy, portrayed by Patti LuPone.

Monday Night Mayhem gives us the two sides of Cosell — his bigger-than-life persona on camera and his insecurities in private. We see a Cosell who pores through newspapers, gripping about every negative review he receives. He becomes the target of hate mail, and even receives death threats. Often, he becomes frustrated, fed up. The work is beneath him. He wants to interview presidents, senators, not just linebackers. But sports broadcasting is where he made his reputation. And the comments he makes on Monday nights often become the topic of conversation for millions of Americans — whether at home, work or school — on Tuesday mornings. As the real Cosell so immodestly said himself, he made Monday Night Football.

Of course, Monday Night Football also provided a broader audience to Cosell, who had made his reputation as a boxing commentator and interviewer of Ali. But Monday Night Football also takes a toll, as Meredith (Brad Beyer) and Gifford (Kevin Anderson) begin to grate on Cosell and he on them.

Monday Night Mayhem is not without its problems. For those who are sticklers for historical accuracy when it comes to sports, Monday Night Mayhem gets a bit cockeyed. Some things happen out of sequence.

Minnesota Vikings running back Chuck Foreman — Anderson's Gifford character refers to as "George Foreman" — was an NFL rookie in 1971 as the movie depicts. Also Carroll Dale might have finished his career with the Redskins, but in 1971 he was a wide receiver for the Redskins.

Monday Night Football has not been the same since Cosell left after the 1983 season. Monday Night Football — Cosell — helped make Monday Night Football a leader in television sports in the 1970s. Today, it's pretty much just another network now owned by Disney.

Monday Night Mayhem about the birth of a television sporting phenomenon that grew into an institution, the human drama behind the weekly coast-to-coast live vision broadcast.

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BRIEFS

Running

Berkeley resident Clara Horowitz was one of eight girls from across the nation invited to compete at the Millrose Games at New York City's Madison Square Garden on Feb. 1. Horowitz, a senior at Head-Royce School in Oakland, will compete in the girls high school mile. Olympian Regina Jacobs, with whom Horowitz trains, will take part in open competition. The Millrose Games are one of the most prestigious indoor track events in the country.

The Lake Merritt Joggers and Striders running club will host the 24th annual Couples Relay on February 24. This year's race promises to be one of the best ever. For the first time, the club is partnering with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the East Bay, using the race as a fund-raiser for that organization. The format for the Couples Relay is one female and one male runner each running a 5K around Lake Merritt. Entry fee is \$12 per couple and all pre-registered runners will receive a pair of colorful running gloves.


Refreshments will be served after the race, all runners get a goody bag, and there will be a raffle drawing with lots of prizes given away. For details, call the club hotline at 510-339-2430 or go to the LMJS Web site at www.mindspring.com/~banchero1/lmjs/.

Fast-pitch softball

The East Bay Vipers under-14 fastpitch softball team is looking for athletes interested in playing competitive softball.

The team's main needs are in the area of pitchers and catchers. For tryout information, call Rich at (925) 458-1160 or at Joanne (925) 754-2493. Or contact the Vipers by e-mail at eastbayvipers@AOL.com.

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Panthers

FROM PAGE C1

that was enough to get the Panthers over the rough spots. She started playing community basketball in the third grade and credits her father, Lawson and coach Sean Duhan for refining her game.

"I didn't expect to come out and dominate like I have been doing," she said. "But that won't stop me from working and improving my game. There is still

Cruisers

FROM PAGE C1

Of the varsity victory, assistant coach Cecilia Perkins said: "I'm incredibly proud of them. We won our first four games in the tourney by bigger margins, but in the title game we had to fight back from eight points down. Throughout the tourney, our shooting was just OK, but it was our consistent defense that won it for us."

Arts

BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Saturday Night Fever in Boston

HOW SWEET it is: Shades of last year's baseball season. The Oakland Athletics are again in the playoffs, and the San Francisco squad in this case those local media wranglings (the 49ers) isn't. Hey, since Oakland is so often beset by the narcissistic, San Francisco-centered local media, we'll take every satisfaction we can get over here — and this is a big one. Watching the Niners lose at Green Bay Sunday after the Raiders had won to advance in the playoffs was sweet indeed. We strongly suspected before last weekend who the better team — and who the tougher schedule. It's a music to my ears hearing the Raider Nation (both the fans and the fans) sounding on Raider flagship station KTVU (1050 AM) all week.

And if you have any doubt the Silver and Black's next opponents aren't worried, you haven't seen the Boston dailies this week. "Raiders of the Lost" is what one Hub sports writer called the Raiders (nice turn of phrase, that) after witnessing their convincing win over the Jets, explaining: "This was the Raider team we saw in the first 10 games of the season."

Boston Globe columnist Bob Mahoney, who was at the game at the Coliseum, had to report: "I flew 3,000 miles to look into the future for New England Patriots last night, and what I saw was frightening. I saw an Oakland Raider team that looked nothing like those tomato cans the Patriots beat at the end of the season. I saw a Raider team that could send New England to a black hole of winter."

This from the Pats' hometown newspaper, no less. Mahoney added this note to Boston fans in his piece headed "Be careful what you wish for": "Just be glad your Patriots play at home Saturday night."

The weather? OK, let's say it rains in Foxboro. Conventional (football) wisdom says usually favors a running game. And last time I looked, the Raiders had five solid running backs. The Raiders, if they might just get to host another AFC championship game, are a much-hoped-for rematch against Baltimore. This, of course, give the TV networks one last chance to show the guys with the painted faces who use skulls as helmets — and all the standard black hole shots they love so much.

God forbid they should show a guy from Alameda wearing a tie, sitting in the stands with his kids.

No, the "escapees from a cage," as one sportswriter called the Coliseum's costumed fans, are what the nation will see. It makes for "better television," which is becoming oxymoron. Still, these selected crowd shots are hardly a just for Oakland's image. As the networks care.

Prediction: Raiders 24, Patriots 17.

Media Notes: In all those radio ads heralding the jump to "ABC-7," KRON detector Pete Wilson gushed about joining the Bay Area's "new news team." That would normally be the same Chan-7 that misapprehended the public on its lead story one week: "Separate Tri-County News Team." Maybe "the Bay Area's new news team" didn't have money for a spell-checker after all that money to the agent.

On radio, Disney talk rules: The just-released fall Arbitron radio ratings for the Bay Area, the two Disney-owned stations were ranked one (GO) and two (KSFQ). Radio stations across the country are general news beneficiaries, not surprisingly, of Sept. 11, generating lots of heat and, as usual, precious little light.

peaking of radio stations ben-



U.S. MILITARY HELICOPTERS have a featured role in the action drama "Black Hawk Down."

'Black Hawk' a strong dose of history

By Vera H-C Chan
STAFF WRITER

The Black Hawk is a helicopter, the apotheosis of America's muscular might, technological supremacy and military invulnerability. This aura of invincibility took a shattering, lethal blow when Somalia militiamen shot down one but two UH-60L Black Hawks on Oct. 3, 1993.

Famine and warlords intercepting emergency food supplies had resulted in hundreds of thousands starving to death in the East African nation of Somalia. Into the anarchy of clan rivalries and civil war, the American contingent of the United Nations peacekeeping force launched a

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Black Hawk Down"

■ **STARRING:** Josh Hartnett, Sam Shepard, Ewan McGregor, Tom Sizemore

■ **RATING:** R (strong violence, language)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 23 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters

■ **GRADE:** A-

secret mission to disable one brutal warlord in particular, Mohamed Farrah Aidid.

"Black Hawk Down" is Ridley Scott's unflinching look at one

conflict, a planned 45-minute "extraction" of Aidid's top lieutenants that instead became a blood bath that killed 19 Americans and, it's estimated, more than 1,000 Somalis.

Uniforms and rank distinguish the soldiers who descend upon Mogadishu, but terrible chaos renders them nearly interchangeable here, and it's deliberate. As elite military forces — the young Rangers and the veteran Deltas — individualism yields to a trained brotherhood in which its members are willing to die for one another, even if the other is already dead. While "Leave No Man Behind" serves as and sounds like a film tagline, it's a written creed of the Rangers

that becomes the movie's mantra.

As Ranger staff sergeant Matt Eversmann, Josh Hartnett is not so much the leading man as the terribly involved observer through which the audience becomes terribly involved itself. Shaved heads aside, much of the cast is familiar, from Ewan McGregor as desk-bound Ranger specialist Grimes to Sam Shepard as Maj. Gen. William Garrison commanding the mission from the remote Joint Operations Center.

One of the dangers of a Hollywood war film, as producer Jerry Bruckheimer showed in "Pearl Harbor," is the most egregious civilian condescension in

See HAWK, Page C5

Comedy veterans the source of stage tripleheader

HERE'S A SPICY, three-course theatrical meal that's already on the table waiting — OK, smarty, it opened last Friday but is still piping hot — weekends through Feb. 10 at Altarena Theatre, 1409 High St., Alameda.

"Power Plays" is a trio of shorties concocted by two great comic chefs (and that's the last of the gourmet cuteness, promise), Elaine May and Alan Arkin. If that last name sounds familiar, he is the father of Adam Arkin who played Adam in the lamentably off-the-air TV show "Northern Exposure." Come to think of it, Adam was a gourmet chef in that series. (So I lied!)

In the first play, "The Way of All Fish," a Manhattan socialite, played by Shelly Lynn Johnson, criticizes her weak secretary (Stephanie Goldstein) until the boundaries of power are delineated.

In the second play, "Virtual Reality," Paul Lancour and Jim Colgan spar for power in tense, comic scenes of wills on a collision course.

Colgan and Goldstein team up in the final play, "In and Out of the Light," for what publicist Stan Lichtenstein call (I haven't seen the show yet) "a farcical tour de force (by) May and Arkin at their comic and satirical best." And that is very good, indeed. The two playwrights starred in the play when it was an off-Broadway comic sensation.

This is adult fun — definitely not for children, Alameda cautions — and should play well in this intimate, in-the-round, presentation so close you front-row folks may bump knees with the players.

"Power Plays" runs at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$12 general; \$9 for seniors and students. Call 510-523-1553.

A WANDERER COMES HOME:

And now all together, lets whoop it up with a loud "Hooray for Our Side (of the Bay)!"

Oakland Public Theater's next offering, "Run Perfectly



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

Still" by Wendy Belden, opens Feb. 14 for a run through March 3. This will be the 3-year-old company's first full production in its new Oakland home: the Mills College Theatre Department. Up to now, OPT spent a lot of time and energy hopping between venues on both sides of the Bay.

The new arrangement with Mills, under the college's Theater-in-Residence program, allows the company to hold its season of shows, readings and workshops in the Lisser Hall facilities on campus. The address is 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

"This residency frees us from constantly searching for somewhere to do a show," said Artistic Director Norman Gee, "and allows us to focus more energy on bringing diverse, professional-level theater to Oakland."

And there's an added bonus for students, adds managing director (and Mills alumna) Elizabeth Carter. "Theater students get hands-on experience with professionals."

Now back to "Run Perfectly Still," a fitting choice for the company's third Black History Month offering.

The play, a product of a local writer's workshop co-produced by ACT in 1998, reflects a new view of the American South. The historic perspective permits an appreciation of the old South in all its finery, without losing sight of the human cost of that finery.

"Run Perfectly Still," directed by Gee, plays at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, through March 2. An additional 2 p.m. matinee will be performed on Saturday, March 2.

Tickets are \$12-\$15, sliding scale. Group discounts are



WENDY BELDEN'S "Run Perfectly Still" in performance by the Oakland Public Theater will be staged at the Mills College Theatre Department, Feb. 14 through March 3.

available. Call 510-534-9529.

AUDITIONS FOR 'OLIVER!' Okay, all you hopefuls, loosen up those pipes and get ready for an open audition with a Twist (giggling jab in the ribs; get it?)

On Feb. 4 and 5, Contra Costa Civic Theatre will begin casting "Oliver!", Lionel Bart's musicalization of Dickens' "Oliver Twist."

Director Michael Manley puts the word out that there are numerous principal and ensemble roles for male and female actors and singers of all ages, including 12 children ages 7 to 12.

Auditions will be held at the theater, 951 Pomona Ave. (corner of Mooser Lane), El Cerrito. Children should come at

6:30 p.m. and adults at 7:30 p.m. Bring a show tune in your key. An accompanist will be provided. No tapes, please. Callbacks will be on Feb. 12, with rehearsals beginning on Feb. 25.

This is a non-Equity production. No pay. Performance times and dates are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays from April 12 through May 25, with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees on April 21 and 28, and May 5 and 12. Call 510-524-6654 for more information.

Send items of interest to Jack Tucker at 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806; fax to 510-262-2776; e-mail to jtucker@cctimes.com, or call 510-262-2768. Include a contact name and number.

EVENTS

General

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY — DIMOND BRANCH — "Internet Workshops," Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 3565 Fruitvale Ave. (510) 482-7844.

WEST OAKLAND BRANCH — "Chess Workshop for Children," Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. 1801 Adeline St. (510) 597-5049.

Free. Oakland. (510) 238-3134 or www.oaklandlibrary.org

CODY'S BOOKSTORES — Luis Rodriguez, Jan. 18. The author offers a compassionate way to build strong, safe communities in "Hearts and Hands: Creating Community in Violent Times."

Wen Ho Lee, Jan. 19. The Los Alamos scientist who was falsely accused of espionage in conversation with Helen Zian "My Country Vs. Me."

Cecile Pineda, Jan. 22. The author reads from her new novel "Fishlight: A Dream of Childhood."

Helene Byrne, Jan. 24, 7 p.m. East Bay Moms presents the author and her book "Exercising After Pregnancy: How to Look and Feel Your Best." At 1730 Fourth St., Berkeley. (510) 559-9500.

Robert Mailer Anderson, Jan. 24. The author reads from "Boonville," a story of two young people actively searching for self and community in a small town of misfits, rednecks and counterculture burnouts.

Eric Schlosser, Jan. 25. The author talks about his bestseller "Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of The All-American Meal," which is now available in paperback. Free. Readings at 7:30 p.m. and at 2454 Telegraph Ave. unless noted otherwise. Berkeley. (510) 845-7852.

PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE — "The 10th Children's International Film Festival," through Feb. 17. Animated and live-action short films and features from around the world. Includes a screening of the 1924 silent version of "Peter Pan." \$4. 2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (510) 642-1412.

CAL PERFORMANCES — National Acrobats of Taiwan. R.O.C., Jan. 18 and Jan. 19. Taiwan's foremost acrobatic troupe displays its blend of comedy, dance, magic and martial arts. \$20 to \$32. Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Zellerbach Hall, University of California, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. (510) 642-9888.

ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH — "Take Back the Dream," Jan. 20, 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. A spiritual, cultural and political event examining Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision and "a nation in crisis. 8501 International Blvd., Oakland. (510) 654-6966.

Exhibits

ALICE ARTS CENTER — "Windows Exhibition II Series," through March 28. This series of exhibitions features works by 24 Bay area artists shown in the front windows of the Center. The media include sculpture, ceramics, mixed media, photography, painting and woodblock prints. Sponsored by the City of Oakland Craft and Cultural Arts Department. Through Jan. 28: Leslie Laurien, S. Newman and Pashyanti Carole Hand. Free. Daily, 24 hours. 1428 Alice St., Oakland. (510) 238-4948.

ARDENCY GALLERY — "Analogous Biology: Balance and Use," through Jan. 19. Featuring the works of Mark J. Leavitt. Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 709 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 836-0831.

BUCCI'S RESTAURANT — "Space Between Thoughts," through March 1. A group of 10 Bay Area artists portray their own approach to "organizing life." Reception, Jan. 20, noon to 4 p.m. Free. Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Heritage Square Building, 6121 Hollis St., Emeryville. (510) 547-4725.

CHI GALLERY — The gallery specializes in contemporary fine art by notable mid-career and established artists. Free. Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment; Tuesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. 912 Clay St., Oakland. (510) 832-4244.

See EVENTS, Page C5

See MANN, Page C5

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Vera H-C Chan and Mary F. Pols. Times: Robert W. Butler, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Anthony Bresnican, Christy Lemire and Tim Molloy, Associated Press; Stephen Holden, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Bob Strauss, Los Angeles Daily News; Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times; and Gary Dowell, Tom Mastrand and Chris Vogner, Dallas Morning News.

"ALI": There are those who would argue against making any kind of movie about a documentary about Muhammad Ali because as a hero, he's too special, too treasured to replicate. They will probably resist Michael Mann's masterful "Ali," starring a bearded-up and tiptop Will Smith in the title role. But if you don't already know that much about the most charismatic athlete of the century, then you will be enthralled by Mann's beautiful and impressionistic journey through a decade in Ali's life, from his tri-

umphant and shocking 1964 defeat of then-heavyweight champ Sonny Liston to his notorious 1974 Rumble in the Jungle. — M. Pols. (R; some language and brief violence.) 2 hours, 37 minutes. A-

"AMELIE": A feel-good movie in the best possible sense, a comic fable from French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet that vibrates with joy and fast-dances with life. Amelie (the relentlessly charming Audrey Tautou) is a lonely young lady who keeps a watchful eye on the rest of the world. One day she sets out to reunite a child's treasure with its long-gone owner and discovers she likes playing emotional Robin Hood. Setting out on a path to help her neighbors and the denizens of the cafe where she works, she inadvertently trips into a love affair with a guy (Mathieu Kassovitz) who might be as sweetly eccentric as she is. Every time you think the movie is getting too sticky-sweet, Jeunet throws something tart and funny in our path. — M. Pols. (R; sexual content.) 2 hours. A

"A BEAUTIFUL MIND": Very good by the book filmmaking from director Ron Howard. The film spans 47 years in the life of John Forbes Nash Jr. (Russell Crowe), a mathematical genius who won the Nobel Prize for economics in 1994. Doubtless the accolade that made Crowe want to play Nash (brilliantly, as usual) is that Nash also suffers from schizophrenia, and has for decades. Daring only in its subject matter, the movie follows the careful trajectory of a classic inspirational story, occasionally veering into the medicinal, but still undeniably moving and effective. Jennifer Connelly is excellent as Nash's wife. — M. Pols. (PG-13; intense thematic material, sexual content and a scene of violence.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. B+

"BEHIND ENEMY LINES": A military thriller heavy on the flag-waving, but notable for its brisk action sequences and the charisma of its star, Owen Wilson. He plays an American flight navigator who gets shot down in the forests of Bosnia. While a team of

nasty Serbs hunt him like a fox, fearful he'll give away the location of a mass grave, his commanding officer (Gene Hackman) tries to figure out a way to rescue him. The movie takes a rapid swim dive near the end, heading into major cheese territory, but there's a lot of lively action along the way. — M. Pols. (PG-13; war violence and some language.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. C+

"BROTHERHOOD OF THE WOLF": What starts out as a freakish mystery about two men hunting a predatory beast in 18th-century France devolves into a mishmash parody of kitchy and ludicrous occult shenanigans. The French-language thriller draws from real events, when nearly 100 people died horribly, attacked by some unknown creature in the 1780s. Heading the investigation are Fronges (Samuel Le Bihan), a royal naturalist, and his assistant, Mani (Mark Dacascos), an American Indian. The film has some good twists, but for the most part it seems to be chasing its tail. — A. Bresnican. (R; strong violence, gore and nudity.) 2 hours, 22 minutes. D+

"CHARLOTTE GRAY": A beautiful but dull adaptation of the Sebastian Faulks best seller that's distinguished by the luminous presence of its star, Cate Blanchett. Her charisma, however, can't carry this World War II romance about a Scotswoman (Blanchett) who goes undercover with the French Resistance. It's a promising plot, but unfortunately, once Charlotte gets to France, she doesn't do much more than fall in love and dine on rabbit stew. Well, she does assist in blowing up a German train, but the whole thing still feels like a bit like "Under the Tuscan Sun." — M. Pols. (PG-13; some war-related violence, sensuality and brief strong language.) 2 hours. C+

"DARK BLUE WORLD": This fact-based drama flashes back from 1950 in a forced-labor camp in Soviet-controlled Czechoslovakia to the skies over England, circa 1940. With his country occupied by Hitler, protagonist Franta (Ondrej Vetchy) heads for England to offer his services. He's joined by a hot-headed kid named Karel (Kryštof Hádek). Their camaraderie is interrupted when the two fighter pilots fall for the same British woman (Tara Fitzgerald). Director Jan Svěrák does a first-rate job of interweaving spectacular aerial combat and the messy love triangle on the ground. — G. Lovell. (R; combat violence, discreet sex.) 1 hour, 59 minutes. B

"THE DEVIL'S BACKBONE": A brooding, somber sense of dread pervades this sharp and detailed ghost story that takes place in a lonely boarding school late in the Spanish Civil War. Like "The Others," this film is artfully made as it tells its story about a young boy who discovers that there's a snake in the garden of the

OPENING TODAY

"BLACK HAWK DOWN" (R) Elite U.S. soldiers sent into Mogadishu on a peacekeeping mission get trapped in the city and forced into a bloody firefight. Based on actual events that happened in October 1993. — M. Pols.

"FINAL" (R) Drama set in a mental hospital with Denis Leary playing a patient who may or may not be sane. Directed by Campbell Scott.

"THE HIDDEN HALF" (NR) Iranian drama about a woman who reveals her leftist past to her conservative husband in hopes that he will spare the life of a woman facing execution. Director Tahmineh Milani

school. Director Guillermo del Toro knows how to tell a horror story, but he does so with heartache and a sense of history as well. — A.O. Scott. (R; scenes of sexuality and gruesome violence.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. A-

"THE ENDURANCE": A documentary about Sir Ernest Shackleton's legendary journey to the Antarctic, based on Caroline Alexander's book. On board his ship "The Endurance," with his crew of 27, Shackleton spent one agonizing winter trapped in the ice pack, then more than a year trying to reach civilization and save his crew. The film brings the story to life and imparts a timely message about man's tenacity, his ability to survive against all odds and the loyalty inherent in true leadership. The narrative is straightforward, but it is made remarkable by the use of Frank Hurley's photographs and moving footage of the journey. Don't miss this one. — M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 33 minutes. A-

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING": A soulful, passionate giant of a movie, one that will live long past 2001. New Zealand director Peter Jackson's "Heavenly Creatures" (adaptation of the first third of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic "The Lord of the Rings" ensembles up with its dramatic storytelling and visuals and leaves you rejoicing that there are filmmakers out there who have the guts to make a movie destined for vast commercial success that's also intelligent and ferociously heartfelt. Terrifying when it should be, moving when it should be, this holds true to Tolkien's vision. One of the best movies of the year. — M. Pols. (PG-13; epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 58 minutes. A

"GOSFORD PARK": There are no tuts or tight ins in this comic murder mystery from director Robert Altman, but make no mistake, this is ballet on film. Every aspect, from its ultimate ensemble cast to the meticulous re-creation of the staid

was arrested after the film's release in Iran in 2001.

"LANTANA" (R) An Australian thriller starring Anthony LaPaglia as a tightly wound detective trying to solve a murder mystery.

"LIFE AND DEBT" (NR) Documentary about Jamaica's economic woes, based on writer/producer maica Kincaid's book "A Small Place."

"SNOW DOGS" (PG) A comedy starring Cuba Gooding Jr. as a Miami dentist who joins a team of mischievous sled dogs

England of years gone by would be treacherous, but instead emerges triumphant, sprouting wings as elegantly as a stage full of angels. In point, moving in unbroken fashion. It's 1932 and times are tough for the genre. Altman's camera whirrs and races along. "The Endurance" is the still respectful and refreshingly understated. He has been this good in a decade. — (R; some language and brief strong language.) 2 hours, 17 minutes. A

"TER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE" (PG) Director Chris Columbus has fans of K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" books prayed he'd do something story of the orphaned 11-year-old and to life exactly as we all know. There are flaws here as well as takes that often go hand in hand "big" movies — way too much nip and tuck here and there that sprawled magnificent escape page, and computer work that occasionally shows the limitations of magic. But the three young stars exceed expectations, and the adult just right. How you'll feel about iture if you're not already in Harry is an entirely different question we're not ashamed to ask for answer. — M. Pols. (PG) some moments and mid language.) 32 minutes. A-

"HOW HIGH": The marijuana is back in this direct descendant Cheech & Chong flicks like "Up Smoke" and "Nice Dreams." The hop comedy, though, makes them seem positively sophisticated. Redman and Method Man star as guys from the 'hood who stum across some magical weed that they to ace their college exams and land scholarships to Harvard. Most of the jokes are of the far

See REVIEWS, Page 1

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change. Call theaters for information.

★ Wheelchair Accessible

Showtimes for Friday January 18

Alameda County

Act 1 and 2

2128 Center Street, Berkeley 510-843-3456
● In the Bedroom (R) 6:30, 9:45
● Kandahar (Not Rated) 5:15, 7:30, 10

Albany Twin

1115 Solano Ave., Albany 510-843-3456
● Amelie (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
● Gosford Park (R) 1, 4, 7, 10

California Theatre

2113 Kirtland St., Berkeley 510-843-3456
● Theatre Closed for Carriqueau Refrill

Century 16 Bayfair Mall ★

350 Bayfair Mall, San Leandro 510-276-5694
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10
● Ali (R) 12:30, 4, 7:20, 10:25
● Black Hawk Down (R) 12:30, 1:30, 2:35, 2:50, 3:40, 4:45, 6, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:10

● Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG) 12:15, 3:40, 7:10
● How High (R) 7, 10, 9:15
● Imposter (PG-13) 9:10
● Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius (G) 12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7

● Kate and Leopold (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5:05, 7:50, 10:20
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 11:50, 1, 3:30, 5, 7:30, 9, 10:20

● Monsters, Inc. (G) 11:55, 2:25, 4:50
● Ocean's Eleven (PG-13) 11:50, 2:15, 5, 7:35, 10:05

● Orange County (PG-13) 11:45, 12:45, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45
● Snow Dogs (PG) 11:35, 2, 4:25, 7, 9:30
● Vanilla Sky (R) 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30

Century 25 Union City ★

32100 Alvarado Blvd., Union City 510-487-9593
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 11:45, 12:55, 2:35, 4, 5:30, 7:10, 8:25, 10:10, 11:15
● Ali (R) 12:45, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35

● Behind Enemy Lines (PG-13) 11:40, 4:30, 7:15
● Black Hawk Down (R) 11:30, 1:20, 1, 1:50, 2:40, 3:30, 4:20, 5:10, 6, 7, 7:40, 8:30, 9:15, 10:10, 10:45, 11:35, 12:10

● Brotherhood of the Wolf (R) 11:15, 12:55, 2:30, 4:15, 5:50, 7:35, 9:05, 10:45, 12:05
● Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG) 12:05, 3:30, 7

● How High (R) 11:30, 2, 4:25, 7:20, 9:40, 12
● Imposter (PG-13) 11:15, 10:15
● Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius (G) 11:25, 1:35, 3:40, 5:55

● Kate and Leopold (PG-13) 11:35, 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:40
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 11:25, 12:20, 1:40, 3:10, 4:10, 5:25, 7:05, 8, 9:05, 9:50, 10:45, 11:40

● Monsters, Inc. (G) 11:55, 2:55, 5:15
● Not Another Teen Movie (R) 2:15, 9:55, 12:05
● Ocean's Eleven (PG-13) 11:20, 1:25, 1:35, 8:05, 9:45, 10:45, 12:15

● Orange County (PG-13) 11:20, 12:25, 1:30, 2:45, 3:55, 5, 6, 7:20, 8:15, 9:25, 10:20, 11:30, 12:15
● The Royal Tenenbaums (R) 11:40, 2:40, 4:55, 7:30, 10, 12:15

● Snow Dogs (PG) 11:50, 12:50, 2:15, 3:15, 4:40, 5:40, 7:10, 8:05, 9:30, 10:30, 11:50
● Vanilla Sky (R) 12:40, 3:45, 6:55, 9:55

Chabot Cinema

2853 Chabot Valley Blvd., Castro Valley 510-582-2555
● Black Hawk Down (R) 1, 4:30, 8

Chabot Space & Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7300
● The Living Sea (Not Rated) 11:30, 3:30, 8:30
● Mysteries of Egypt (Not Rated) 1, 7:30
● To Be An Astronaut (Not Rated) 10:30

Elmwood 3

2966 College Ave., Berkeley 510-849-0530
● Endurance (G) 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
● Ghost World (R) 4:35, 9:25
● Kate and Leopold (PG-13) 4:30, 7, 9:15
● Mulholland Drive (R) 4:30

Fine Arts Cinema

2451 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-848-1143
● Around Cape Horn (Not Rated) 7:55

Renaissance Grand Lake

3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 12:30, 3:45, 7, 9:40
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 12, 4, 8

● Ocean's Eleven 12:15, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45
● The Shipping News (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35

Jack London Cinema

100 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 12:45, 4, 7:15, 10:25
● Ali (R) 7:05, 10:30
● Black Hawk Down (R) 12:15, 1, 3:30, 4:15, 7, 7:30, 10:15, 10:45

● In the Bedroom (R) 10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
● Jimmy Neutron (G) 11:50, 2:15, 4:30
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 11, 2:45, 6:30, 10:20

● Ocean's Eleven (PG-13) 11:15, 2:30, 5:15, 8, 9:40
● Orange County (PG-13) 12:30, 3, 5:20, 7:35, 9, 10:45

● Snow Dogs (PG) 11:40, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Hayward 9

19091 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 510-785-8000
● Black Hawk Down (R) 12:15, 3:45, 7, 10:15

● Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG) 11:40, 3, 6:45
● How High (R) 12:30, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10
● Imposter (R) 7:40, 10

● Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius (G) 11:50, 2, 4:20, 7:30, 9:30
● Joe Somebody (PG) 12, 2:20, 4:40
● Kate and Leopold (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 12:20, 4:10, 8, 7, 10
● The Majestic (PG) 12:40, 4, 7, 10
● Not Another Teen Movie (R) 9:50

● Orange County (PG-13) 12:10, 2:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40

Naz 8 Cinemas ★

29400 Argonaut Way, Fremont 510-797-2000
● Kandamni Athani Kharcha Rupaiya (Not Rated) 5, 9

● Kaka (R) 5, 9
● Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham... (Not Rated) 5, 7, 9:30, 11:40
● Koi Mere Dil Se Pacchhe (Not Rated) 5, 9

● Pitah (Not Rated) 5, 9
● Tamil Movie (Not Rated) 7, 9, 11

Renaissance Oaks Theatre ★

1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 510-526-1836
● Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius (G) 6
● The Majestic (PG) 7:35
● The Shipping News (R) 7, 9:30

Piedmont Theatre

4186 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-843-3456
● Amelie (R) 1, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15
● Gosford Park (R) 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9:30
● The Royal Tenenbaums (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45

Shattuck Cinemas ★

2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-3456
● Ali (R) 1:45, 5, 8:15
● Dark Blue World (R) 8:30
● Lantana (R) 1:10, 2, 3:50, 4:40, 6:30, 7:20, 9:10, 10

● Life and Debt (Not Rated) 2:30, 5, 7:10, 9:20
● Monsters, Inc. (G) 1:20, 3:40, 6
● No Man's Land (R) 2:15, 4:35, 6:50, 9:15
● Ocean's Eleven (PG-13) 4:15, 3:45, 6:25, 9:05

● The Royal Tenenbaums (R) 1, 1:50, 3:30, 4:30, 6, 7, 8:30, 9:30
● Vanilla Sky (R) 1:05, 4, 6:55, 9:45

United Artists Berkeley

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-3456
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 11:45, 3, 7:30, 10:35
● Black Hawk Down (R) 11, 12, 2:25, 3:30, 5:55, 7, 9:30, 10:25

● Brotherhood of the Wolf (R) 11:15, 2:30, 7:15, 10:55
● Imposter (Not Rated) 5, 9
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 10:45, 2:45, 7:05, 10:45

● Orange County 11:30, 2:15, 4:45, 7:45, 10
● Snow Dogs (PG) 11, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

United Artists Emery Bay 10 ★

6330 Orinda, Emeryville 510-420-0107
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 10:40, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
● Ali (R) 11:30, 3:15, 7:10, 10:40

● Black Hawk Down (R) 10:30, 12, 1:45, 3:30, 5, 7, 8:30, 10:30, 12
● Jimmy Neutron (G) 10:30, 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 9:45, 10:30, 2:45, 7, 10:45

● Ocean's Eleven 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8, 10:45
● Orange County (PG-13) 10:45, 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10, 12:15

● The Royal Tenenbaums (R) 10:45, 1:20, 4:15, 7, 9:45, 12:30
● Vanilla Sky (R) 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

United Artists Hayward 6 ★

24800 Hesperian, Hayward 510-785-3000
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 12:50, 4, 7, 10
● Ali (R) 1, 4:30, 8

● Behind Enemy Lines (PG-13) 7:30, 9:50
● Monsters, Inc. (G) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10
● Ocean's Eleven (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10
● Snow Dogs (PG) 12:35, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30

● Vanilla Sky (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

United Artists Hayward 6 ★

24800 Hesperian, Hayward 510-785-3000
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 12:50, 4, 7, 10
● Ali (R) 1, 4:30, 8

● Behind Enemy Lines (PG-13) 7:30, 9:50
● Monsters, Inc. (G) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10
● Ocean's Eleven (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10
● Snow Dogs (PG) 12:35, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30

Vanilla Sky (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

Central Contra Costa

Renaissance Orinda Theatre ★

4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 6:30, 9:15
● Gosford Park (R) 7, 9:45
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 8

Renaissance Park Theatre

3519 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette 925-253-7997
● Amelie (R) 7, 9:35

Rheem Theatre

353 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411
● Black Hawk Down (R) 12:40, 7:45
● Kate and Leopold (PG-13) 4:30, 7, 9:25
● Orange County (PG-13) 5, 7:30, 9:20

● The Royal Tenenbaums (R) 4:40, 7:15, 9:30

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop

3200 Kiste Way, Richmond 510-759-2345
● Beautiful Mind (PG-13) 12:55, 3:55, 7:20, 10:15
● Ali (R) 11:30, 3, 6:55, 10:10

● Black Hawk Down (R) 11:30, 12:15, 1:20, 2:40, 3:35, 4:40, 6, 7, 8, 9:20, 10:20
● Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG) 12:10, 3:45, 7:10, 10:25

● How High (R) 6:05, 10:25
● Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius (G) 11:35, 1:35, 3:20, 5:30, 7:30

● Kate and Leopold (PG-13) 11:25, 1:55, 4:55, 7:50, 10:30
● The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 11:45, 12:50, 3:40, 4:35, 7:25, 8:25, 9:30

AMC Van Ness 14 ★

1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262
● A Beautiful Mind 1, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
● Ali (R) 12:20, 4:10, 7:30, 10:50

● Orange County (PG-13) 12, 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, 4:20, 5:45, 7:05, 7:55, 9:25, 10:05
● Snow Dogs (PG) 11:25, 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
● Vanilla Sky (R) 11:50, 3:10, 6:50, 9:55

San Francisco

Hawk

FROM PAGE C3

reducing war to special effects and heroism to a romantic triangle. By tightly focusing on 15 hours in the hostile territory of Mogadishu, director Scott pays his respects to the valor, though not necessarily the politics.

Heroism might seem suspect when foreigners — that is, Americans — intercede in someone else's civil war, and "Black Hawk Down" early on does show the crossbreeding of worldly altruism and superpower arrogance. "So, what's it like? Mogadishu? The fighting," 18-year-old private Todd Blackburn (Orlando Bloom) asks on his first day. His uninformed eagerness represents the typical soldier who doesn't know why he's involved and doesn't care. They don't exactly know where they are and refer to the country's residents as "skinnies." Eversmann articulates the viewpoint of benevolence — "We can help, or we can sit back and watch them kill themselves on CNN" — but he is rare.

Reviews

FROM PAGE C3

relative-laced-insult variety. "How High," which looks quick and cheap, is the directorial debut of Jesse Dylan, Bob's son. — R. Butler. (R; language, drug use, brief nudity) 1 hour, 30 minutes. D+

"IMPOSTOR": Earth is at war with a race of aliens, and Spencer O'Ham (Gary Shuler), a weapons engineer and devoted husband to wife Maya (Madeleine Stowe), is working on a super weapon that will turn the tide. But then he is arrested under the claim that he is not O'Ham at all, but a genetically engineered duplicate. He escapes and attempts to prove that he is the real McCoy. The film is based on a short story by legendary futurist Philip K. Dick, and includes some of his classic themes — paranoia, identity and self-awareness in an age of technology run amok. Unfortunately, it can't overcome its PG-13 sexuality, violence, language. — G. Dowell. (PG-13 sexuality, violence, language.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. C-

"IN THE BEDROOM": A beautifully directed, written and acted movie about lust, blame and loss, set in a small seaside town in Maine. Sissy Spacek and Tom Wilkinson star as parents whose lives change after their son (Nick Stahl) gets involved in a potentially dangerous relationship. Spacek will almost certainly get an Oscar nomination for her unrelentingly powerful performance, and first-time director Todd Field has made a name for himself. Bleak, but one of the year's best. — M. Pols. (R; some violence and language.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. A

"JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS": Brave 10-year-old Jimmy gets himself into plenty of hot water with radical inventions like shrink rays and rocket ships. But when all the grown-ups in Jimmy's hometown are kidnapped by space aliens, Jimmy and his friends must construct a homemade space armada, fight the evil aliens and rescue their parents in time for dinner. It's a simple story packed with a lot of charm and plenty of gags for both children and parents. Jimmy's creators obviously remember what it was like to be a kid, and they've channeled those memories into a delightful movie. — G. Dowell. (G) 1 hour, 17 minutes. B+

"ICE SOMEMBODY": Tim Allen plays Joe, a withdrawn, sweet-hearted wimp. His quiet meaningful relationship is with his 12-year-old daughter, Natalie (Hayden Panettiere). When Joe is slapped around by a wife bully in front of his daughter, he falls into an alcohol-soaked funk. Spurred by co-worker Meg (Julie Bowen), Joe transforms himself and challenges the bully to a rematch. This predictable, lightweight film has some funny moments, but it's as soft-headed as it is soft-hearted. — T. Maurstad. (PG; language, mild violence.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. C+

"KANDAHAR": In director Mohsen Makhmalbaf's worthy but flat movie, a child who escaped Afghanistan as a child returns as an educated, liberated journalist on a mission to find and convince her suicidal sister that there is reason to live. Journalist Nafiseh Pazira, who plays the woman, undertook a similar journey several years ago on a hand's behalf, and the film mixes the styles of feature and documentary films without satisfying the goals of either medium. It doesn't help that Pazira and most of the actors are not just amateur, but uncomfortable on-camera. But this is still a view onto a world we need to know more about, and Makhmalbaf is a worthy of beautiful, intimate. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 25 minutes. B-

"KATE & LEOPOLD": Director James Mangold ("Copland," "Girl Interrupted") can't quite navigate the screwball comedy route in this time-travel romance when Meg Ryan as a modern ambitious marketing miss and Hugh Jackman as an inadvertently transported duke from 1876 New York. No crackling dialogue and not much chemistry binds the two, some dated cutes as they are, and that leaves too much time to brood on plot inconsistencies. — V. Chan. (PG; mild strong language.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. C+

"THE MAJESTIC": A "wadda ya say" movie. Wadda ya say we fix up a crumpled version of the Constitution and remember how America stands for? It's 1951 and wood writer who gets a case of amnesia and rediscovers his idealism in a small California town, where he is mistaken for a lost war hero. Cheesy, but director Frank Darabont ("The Shaw-

When the men embark on the mission, they show their might and indifference in leaving behind gear such as night vision goggles and additional bullet-proof padding. "It'll be nothing. Nothing," one says in the chorus of cheerleading.

Yet when child scouts with cell phones give warning to the Somalia militia that the Americans are coming, immediately it begins to sink in how much the risks were seriously underestimated. In Mogadishu, rocket grenade launchers are commonplace arsenal, and that's what takes down two of the powerful Black Hawks. As the mission falls apart, the Ranger creed becomes at once a heroic cry and a death sentence, for to leave no man behind means risking more lives. Once the first Black Hawk crashes, the death countdown involuntarily begins.

"Black Hawk Down" reflects this downward spiral in its riveting photography, going from sparkling panoramic Technicolor to a searing grayness interrupted by bright splashes of blood red. The technical language,

weaponry and pounding exchange of gunfire contributes to a gruesome realism without sensationalizing it. This leaves the horrible conviction that Scott is practicing restraint and that the surgical precision for which this operation was intended favorably contrasts with the butchery of war.

The emphasis on heroism does chafe a little, given the ratio of 19 Americans dead (and 73 injured) to so many Somalis dead. There are moments that hint at the other side's tragedies: an old man carrying a dead child; a woman gathering a crowd of children in her arms as bullets rip into the doorway; even the snipers tumbling like dominos in the air strafing runs. How Scott might tell their story perhaps would give an answer to what the American soldiers finally asked of themselves.

Vera H-C Chan is the Times event editor. She can be reached at 925-977-8428 or at vchan@cctimes.com.

and rhythm. Keep your expectations low and you'll have a good time. — M. Pols. (PG-13: some language and sexual content.) 1 hour, 56 minutes. B+

"ORANGE COUNTY": If the comedy "Orange County" is to be believed, everyone in Orange County is either stoned, stupid or both. Shaun, a stoned surfer dude (Colin Hanks), rethinks his life after the death of a friend. He decides he wants to go to Stanford and be a writer. But instead of stupid guidance counselor (Lily Tomlin) sends the wrong transcript, and he is denied admission. Dude sets off on odyssey north, stupidly allowing stoned brother (Jack Black) to drive. Stupid-but-sweet girlfriend (Shuylar Fisk) comes along. Soon the dean of admissions is stoned, too. The movie wraps up with Shaun making a decision that can only be described as stupid. — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence, sexual content, language and brief drug references.) 1 hour, 21 minutes. C-

"PORN STAR: THE LEGEND OF RON JEREMY": A sad but funny documentary about unlikely porn star Ron Jeremy, a short, portly Jewish boy from Brooklyn with an unfortunate amount of body hair. He's made some 1,600 porn films, but all Jeremy really wants to be accepted by mainstream Hollywood. As unlikely as his quest is, director Scott Gill laces the movie with so much humor that this is certainly the most surprisingly funny documentary of the year. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 19 minutes. B

"THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS": There's such an ironic distance to director Wes Anderson's playful, highly stylized movie about a family of failed, alienated geniuses that it's like watching a cinematic version of the eccentric literary quarterly McSweeney's, something exquisitely crafted for maximum cleverness. What saves it from being gag-meat is the fact that Anderson also has a tender heart to go along with his fetish for detail and eye for the absurd. And all the movie's mannerisms are some truisms about family that knock you for an unexpectedly emotional loop. All the performances are delightful, but Gene Hackman, as the Tenenbaums' rascal of a patriarch, is unforgettable. — M. Pols. (R; some language, sexuality/nudity and drug content.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. A-

"THE SHIPPING NEWS": A pretty but languid and underwhelming version of Annie Proulx's novel, directed by Lasse Hallstrom. Maybe we shouldn't be surprised: "The Shipping News" was a great read, but it lacked many cinematic virtues. Quoyie (Kevin Spacey, doing a fine if unexciting job), its plodding protagonist, is hardly a hero. The story is too densely packed, the action too internal, Proulx's humor and poetry on the page too important. You could imagine it making a fine eight-hour series for PBS or HBO, unfolding gradually and sucking you in. Predictably, Hallstrom has made it all about healing. Yawn. — M. Pols. (R; some language, sexuality and disturbing images.) 1 hour, 51 minutes. B-

"SPY GAME": According to director Tony Scott's ("Top Gun") lively thriller, everyone at the CIA is a bored head, except for Nathan Muir (Robert Redford), a leftover from the Cold War days. It's 1991, and Nathan has to play cat-and-mouse with the gang at Langley to save his protégé Tom Bishop (Brad Pitt) from certain death at the hands of the Chinese government. Those looking for major thrills will be disappointed that Nathan never wields any weapon more powerful than a cell phone or a fax machine. But Redford is mighty appealing in what is his best role in years. Pitt's part as the idealistic Tom is more limited, but he's fine as well (in every sense of the word). — M. Pols. (R; language, violence and brief sexuality.) 2 hours, 7 minutes. B

"VANILLA SKY": A remake of Alejandro Amenabar's intriguing but mildly silly 1997 film "Abre Los Ojos" ("Open Your Eyes") that leaves us asking, why bother? Director Cameron Crowe is too talented to waste his time remaking a movie that hasn't even had time to gather dust on video-store shelves. Tom Cruise plays yet another well-heeled jerk in need of redemption. He's got a gorgeous, unstable model (Cameron Diaz) hanging off his sleeve, but he's suddenly drawn to another glittery prize, a frisky Spanish girl (Penelope Cruz). A car accident sets the story's crazy plot in motion, but it's hard to care much about any of this. — M. Pols. (R; sexuality and strong language.) 2 hours, 16 minutes. C

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

efiting big-time, one local radio exec tells me that "NBC-3" has already bought air time through October on his station to remind listeners that NBC has moved to San Jose from SanFran. So get used to those ads. Also, alas, we must get used to constant political ads after only a two-month break. One wishes we'd adopt Britain's system, in which campaigning is strictly limited to a few weeks before an election.

Veteran Oakland media gadfly Rich Lieberman is one of many to call this past week to call KNBR's juvenile new morning show "nauseating" (he's still a fan of KNBR hosts Gary Radnich and Rick Barry, however). The new AM host, L.A. hack John London, has an unnerving eye for the lowest common denominator. KNBR, by the way, used to be a Top 10 fixture in the local Arbitrations. In these latest ratings, it's down at 19th. And with its repulsive new morning show, I fully expect KNBR to plunge even, possibly to the audience level of the P.A. at K-Mart.

Speaking of the NBC-impaired KRON, one KRON news staffer there tells me, "This is such a sad place these days. What a tragedy. I can't begin to tell you how low morale here is now. And our new morning show from 7 to 9 was such a promising opportunity, but it's being squandered." Yeah, but look at the bright side: We now get an hour of "Frasier" reruns each weeknight! Look, I like "Frasier," but it's well-known inside (and outside) the TV

business that reruns of that classy NBC show don't have the "legs" of, say, "Seinfeld" reruns. Not even close. I can watch "Seinfeld" repeats several times without getting tired of them, and I do. You can't say the same about "Frasier" repeats, which are watchable maybe — maybe — once. Speaking of "Seinfeld," advance word is that co-star Julia Louis-Dreyfus' new NBC sitcom premiering Feb. 26 just isn't funny. Right — just like the network flops starring her erstwhile co-stars, Michael Richards and Jason Alexander. Here's a novel idea: Why don't these three just follow the successful lead of "Frasier" star Kelsey Grammer. Keep the character, and build a new series around it. But that would make too much sense.

Unwatchable: The awful new Japanese-style manufactured-stress game shows, Fox's "The Chamber" and ABC's "The Chair." The latter's producer is suing Fox for supposedly ripping off her idea. "The Chamber" places contestants in a "torture chamber" (the emcee's words) where they're fed silly questions while they're "stressed" by getting blasted by scorching heat — or showered with ice-cold water. They're also spun around and shaken, like a load of human laundry. "The Chair" is hosted by John McEnroe, but it isn't the first time McEnroe's disgraced himself in the presence of a chair: Just ask anyone who umpired his matches at Wimbledon.

And last Sunday, Fox moved "The Simpsons" out of its usual 8 p.m. time spot and inserted "The Chamber" there. (The game show is on at 9 this Sun-

day). As a lead-in to the premiere, Fox billed its 7-8 hour last week as a "Simpsons event." What it actually was: Two reruns of the animated series. Reruns are now "an event."

Finally today, what IS worth watching this Sunday night (airing at 10 on KQED-TV) is a first-rate new "American Experience" PBS documentary, "Mount Rushmore." It tells the story of the irascible but talented sculptor who created the patriotic work and who dedicated the last part of his life to it.

Absolutely true story: Years ago, when I was in Hollywood interviewing producer George Schlatter for a TV Guide article about his silly NBC "reality" series, "Real People," I toured the show's production offices. Piles of viewer mail with "Real People" story ideas were stacked everywhere. I noticed a postcard of Mount Rushmore posted on the staff bulletin board. The breathless message on the back of the card read: "You won't believe this! The wind has miraculously sculpted the faces of four U.S. presidents on this mountain in South Dakota!"

After I stopped laughing, I asked a segment producer about the card; surely it was a joke. He rolled his eyes and replied, "Nope. We called the sender. She actually believes that's how those faces were created."

I suspect that viewer won't be watching PBS Sunday night.

(Questions, Comments? E-mail Bill: Newsmann@sonic.net)

Events

FROM PAGE C3

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT — "Familiar Sights, Unfamiliar Vision: An Exploration of Anthony Chabot Regional Park," through Feb. 1. Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oakland Administration Building, Second Floor Lobby, 375 11th St., Oakland. (510) 287-0143.

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION — "The Works of Alexander Nepote," through March 29. The artist was deeply influenced by theologian Paul Tillich and used layered painting of torn pieces of watercolor paper, fused together in landscape images. In the Bade Museum, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. (510) 849-8272. Reception, Jan. 28, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

"Holocaust Drawings," closing Jan. 25. An exhibit of 21 works on paper by Cleve Gray, representing a "catharsis" in which color invites consideration of the Holocaust in ways unattainable through words or text. Free. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley. (510) 649-2541.

HALL OF PIONEERS GALLERY — "Oakland Chinatown Pioneers," open-ended. Twelve showcases each focusing on historic leaders and personalities of the community. Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Chinese Garden Building, 275 Seventh St., Oakland. (510) 530-4590.

HERITAGE SQUARE BUILDING — "Sight Specific," through March 1. An exhibition of emerging artists, including Susan Eloyse, Barbara Harvie, Dimitri Kourounidis, Nikki Lee, Lenore McDouald, John Rhodes Miller, Will Richmond, Cathy Ryan, Angela Tirrell and Jessica L.M. Yansouni. Reception, Jan. 20, noon. Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sixty-Second and Hollis Streets, Emeryville. (415) 258-

HOLLIS STREET PROJECT — "Ton of Joy," through March 1. A group show of 12 painters and sculptors "celebrating life and beauty" as a positive response to recent events. Part of Taking the Leap, a professional practices program.

"Fresh Paint, New Work," through March 1. Works by various artists.

"Chemistry," through March 1. Reception, Jan. 20, noon. Free. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. 5900 Hollis St., Emeryville. (415) 258-0115.

KALA ART INSTITUTE — "Kala Artists Annual," through Jan. 31. All Kala artists-in-residence who worked in the studio during 2001 display their works. Free. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. (510) 494-2977 or

www.kala.org

PRO ARTS — "Juried Annual 2001-02," through Feb. 2. An exhibition of painting, sculpture, mixed media, photography and more by Bay Area and regional artists. Artists' Talks, Jan. 19, 1 p.m. Free. 461 Ninth St., Oakland. (510) 763-4361.

RICHMOND ART CENTER — MAIN GALLERY — "The Art of Living Black: Bay Area Black Artists Art Tour and Exhibition," Jan. 19 through March 16. Artists Reception, Feb. 2, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Free. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4:30 p.m. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. (510) 620-6772 or www.richmondartcenter.org

ROYAL GROUND GALLERY — "Beginnings," through March 31. A gallery exhibit of paintings, photography and graphic arts by eight artists. Free. Daily, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. 2058 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. (510) 339-0348.

TRAYWICK GALLERY — "Dennis Begg: New Work" and "Steve Briscoe: New Works on Paper," through Feb. 9. Begg's work explores memory as the building block of consciousness, learning and experience by modifying photographs and portraits. Briscoe addresses issues of identity through evocative combinations of text and imagery. Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and by appointment. 1316 Tenth St., Berkeley. (510) 527-1214 or www.traywick.com

21 GRAND LIVE ART

GALLERY — "All Grown Up: New Paintings and Drawings," through Feb. 2. Works by Amy Chan. Free. Thursday, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday through Sunday, 1 p.m. through 6 p.m. 21 Grand Ave., Oakland. (510) 444-7263.

UC BERKELEY ART MUSEUM —

"Migrations: Photographs by Sebastiao Salgado," through March 24. The artist's widely acclaimed images of humanity set adrift by war, famine and political repression.

"Ansel Adams from the University of California Collections," through March 10. A selection of photographs and memorabilia from the extensive holdings of the University of California's Bancroft Library. \$6 general; \$4 seniors and students age 12 to 18; free Thursday 11 a.m. to noon and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (510) 642-0808 or www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

Outdoors

ANTHONY CHABOT REGIONAL PARK — The centerpiece of this park, 20 minutes from downtown Oakland, is the 315-acre Lake Chabot. Other attractions are hiking, riding and bicycling through grasslands, chapparal and shady eucalyptus groves. Parking fee. Redwood Road, Oakland. (510) 639-4751 or www.ebparks.org

CRAB COVE VISITOR CENTER — closed for the winter. Reopens March 2. 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. (510) 521-6887 or www.ebparks.org

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Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-availability basis.

Children

The Crowden Center for Music in the Community (CCMC) introduces "Music Pathways," a new instrumental education program for children between the ages of five and 10. The programs begins Jan. 26. Music Pathways will act in collaboration with existing music education programs, including public and private schools, to provide the foundation upon which to build solid musical progress. For more information and registration packets, call Elisabeth Christensen at 559-6910 or visit the Web site at www.thecrowdenschool.org.

The El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative, 7200 Mooser Lane, hosts its open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9. Call 526-1916 for more information.

Fall 2002 registration for Albany Preschool, 850 Masonic Ave., will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. Applications will be taken for the morning and afternoon programs for children who will be at least three-years-old by Dec. 2, 2002. Applications will be reviewed in the order received, with priority given to Albany residents. There is a \$25 non-refundable application fee to be paid at the time of registration. For more information, call the school at 527-6403.

The School of the Madeleine, 1225 Millvia St., Berkeley, will hold its annual Catholic Schools Week Open House from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27. There will be a kindergarten information meeting at noon in the K classroom. Applications for kindergarten through eighth grade are available. All are welcome. Check out the Web site at www.themadeleine.com for more information.

Teen Support Group meets twice a month Tuesday evenings at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The free support group is for teens who have a parent or caregiver with cancer. The meeting is co-facilitated by a teen whose mother had breast cancer. For more information, call Pediatric Care at 531-7551.

Check out books from the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center Library. Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 848-0237.

Hall of Health, 2230 Shattuck Ave., a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 549-9682.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special programs for children from 22 months to 5 years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified

supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For more information, call Judge, 215-4371.

LBGO Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyparent@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California field research stations; and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to info@quidinc.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134.

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education: drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

UC Botanical Garden offers a rose pruning workshop by expert horticulturist Peter Klement from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 26, at 200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry Canyon, Berkeley. Call 643-2755 for more information.

Berkeley Camera Club meet Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Northridge Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 525-3565.

The City of El Cerrito Human Relations Commission and St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church present "Building Hope for the Dream," the 13th annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration on Monday, Jan. 21. The celebration begins at 10 a.m., at the El Cerrito Department of Motor Vehicles. The celebrants will then march to the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane, at 11 a.m. for music, entertainment, guest speakers, and free food. Call Patricia Durham at 234-2518 for more information.

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CULTURAL ATTACHE

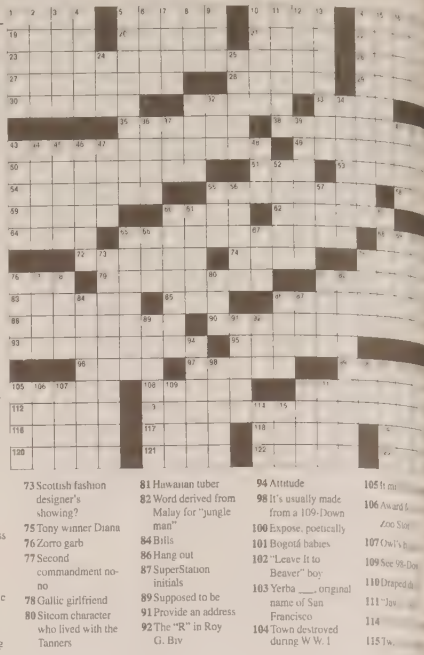
By NELSON HARDY/EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter K 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. For more information call Betty Coates at 235-0490. This chapter has moved from Richmond.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Rescue Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370.

Marion Rosen, founder of ROS Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental

practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-8606.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the first department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film

Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northridge Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-8708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Richmond, and Kensington? 11141, Berkeley, CA. 94701.

"Work Buddies"; volunteers to provide volunteer work with patients in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette at 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic, 7000 Mondays; free clinic at the center for Psychotic Studies in Berkeley. Cleansing, stress relief 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical day treatment and social day treatment. By calling 1-888-888-8888.

See CALENDAR, Page 2.



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Michael Morgan, Music Director

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Michael Morgan, Conductor
Free Pre-Concert Lecture by Marco Beltrami 7:05 PM

J. S. Bach Toccata & Fugue in D Minor (Fantasia, arranged by Leopold Stokowski)

Paul Dukas Sorcerer's Apprentice (Fantasia)

Giuseppe Verdi Overture to La Forza del Destino (Dean de Florante)

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Calendar

PAGE C6

agreed to do three interviews, but only one was chosen for the study. The study is free treatment at existing treatment programs.

Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at the University of California, Berkeley, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

Anti-Action lets you make a difference from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a UC scholar/student for one hour a week. **YWCA**, at Berkeley, Call 848-6663.

Daytime Drop-in Center in the Valley, serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day through Saturday. Volunteers needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 848-6663.

Women's Cancer Resource Center (WCRC) features a retrospective show of work of the late Jan Hartman, Feb. 1 through March 13. The exhibit is part of "The Art for Living" (TOLB) "open studios for African-American artists. Ms. Hartman was the co-founder of WCRC. Gallery hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment on Saturdays. There is no charge for admission and the gallery is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 548-9286 ex. 307.

Photoblog Gallery, 2235 Fifth St., features an exhibition of black and white photographs by East Bay photographer Lmbar Hansen through Jan. 18. Lmbar Hansen has been photographing since the early 1980s. She won the Eddie Adams Photo Award in her first year at the University of California at Berkeley. Gallery hours: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sundays. For more information, call 528-2141.

Art Museum, 2625 Durant Ave., continues its exhibit of "Ansel Adams from the University of California Collection," through March 10. The exhibit consists of a selection of photographs and memorabilia from the extensive holdings of UC Bancroft Library. For more information, call 643-6494.

Black Gallery, 1316 10th St., presents a sculpture by Bay Area artist Steve Begg through Feb. 9. This is the artist's second solo exhibition at the gallery. Showing concurrently in the gallery's back exhibition space are works on paper by Bay Area artist Steve Broome. Gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, by appointment. For more information, call 527-1214.

Richmond Museum of History continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial achievements, and hometown contributions during WWII. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the historic 1910 Carnegie Library in the Old Downtown area at the corner of 4th Street and Nevin Ave. Call 235-7387 for more information or to arrange tours.

The City of El Cerrito presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on request. Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 nonresidents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Judie at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery is located on Solano Avenue. New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Theater/Film/Dance

Cal Performances present the Dance Theatre of Harlem, Wednesday, Jan. 23, through Saturday Jan. 26 in UC Berkeley, Zellerbach Hall. A pre-performance talk with masters Keith Saunders and Augustus Van Heerden at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23 and Friday, Jan. 25. The company, co-founded by and under the artistic direction of choreographer Arthur Mitchell, is known as one of the most successful black ballet companies in the U.S. Tickets: \$24, \$32 and \$48. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; call 642-642-9988 to charge by phone; at Tickets.com; and at the door. For more information, call 642-9988 or visit the Cal Performances Web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS)

See CALENDAR, Page C9

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870 Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

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93000 Cedar Creek, OK 74151. This business is conducted by a general partnership. **By:** January 5, 2002

FILED DECEMBER 19, 2001
COUNTY OF CANTON
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIF.
Express December 11, 2001
The Journal #07395
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 28,
p. January 1, 11, 15,
2002

FILED DECEMBER 19, 2001
COUNTY OF CANTON
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIF.
Express December 11, 2001
The Journal #07395
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 28,
p. January 1, 11, 15,
2002

FILE NO. 01-03817
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**
The name of the business, SEAGWAY CORPORATION, C/OA INC, is located at 10000 Highway 101, San Pablo, CA 94605.
This business is hereby registered by the following: Seagway Corporation
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The statement was filed with the County Clerk on date indicated by file stamp above.
Express December 15, 2001
The Journal #07396
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 15,
p. January 1, 4, 11, 15,
2002

FILED DECEMBER 11, 2001
COUNTY OF CANTON
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIF.
Express December 11, 2001
The Journal #07396
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 15,
p. January 1, 4, 11, 15,
2002

FILE NO. 01-03818
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**
The name of the business, PAULETTES' TWILIGHT, is located at 3684 12TH STREET, SAN PABLO, CA 94605.
This business is hereby registered by the following: Paulettes Denise Mayo
This business is conducted by a sole proprietorship.
The statement was filed with the County Clerk on date indicated by file stamp above.
Express December 11, 2001
The Journal #07396
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 15,
p. January 1, 4, 11, 15,
2002

FILED DECEMBER 28, 2001
COUNTY OF CANTON
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIF.
Express December 11, 2001
The Journal #07400
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 15,
p. January 1, 4, 11, 15,
2002

FILE NO. 01-03823
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**
The name of the business, TEAM AREA'S, is located at 3684 12TH STREET, SAN PABLO, CA 94605.
This business is hereby registered by the following: Jany Clarke
The statement was filed with the County Clerk on date indicated by file stamp above.
Express December 11, 2001
The Journal #07400
p. Business commenced on
p. Business December 15,
p. January 1, 4, 11, 15,
2002

870 Legal Notice

gated by the following owner:
The Content Bureau, Inc.
Florida, 2003
state of incorporation California.
This business is conducted
by a corporation,
STEPHEN L. WEIR
is State Sales President.
This statement was filed
with the County Clerk,
CONTRA COSTA county
dated by file stamp above
on December 17, 2001.
Public January 18, 2002
Public January 18, 2002
Public January 18, 2002
Public January 18, 2002

JANUARY 9, 2002
STEPHEN L. WEIR
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
FILE NO. 217-5124

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
I, STEPHEN L. WEIR, do hereby certify that I am the sole proprietor of the business known as M SERVICES, a business located at 3175 S Hampton Court, #4606, Richmond, CA 94806. This business is hereby registered by the following owners:
STEPHEN L. JACKSON
3175 S Hampton Court
Richmond, CA 94806
This statement was filed
with the County Clerk,
CONTRA COSTA county
dated by file stamp above
on January 9, 2002.
Public January 18, 2002
Public January 18, 2002
Public January 18, 2002

DECEMBER 17
STEPHEN L. WEIR
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
FILE NO. 217-5124

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
I, MAVER PROPERTIES INC., do hereby certify that I am the sole proprietor of the business known as MAVER PROPERTIES INC., a business located at 9571 A Drive, Alameda, CA 94507. This business is hereby registered by the following owners:
YACON, YACON & ASSOCIATES, INC.
9571 A Drive
Alameda, CA 94507
This business is conducted
by an individual,
STEPHEN L. JACKSON
dated by file stamp above
on December 17, 2001.
Public January 18, 2002
Public January 18, 2002
Legal The Journals #0751
Public January 18, 25 February 1, 5, 2002

L E G A L N O T I C E

**N O T I C E O F P E T I T I O N T O A D M I N I S T R A T E E S T A T E O F :
C E C E L I A M .
P E R R E R O -
C A S E N U M B E R
2001-00066**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent claimants, and persons who may have claims against the will or estate, you are notified:

870 1000

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMONESTER ESTATE WILL

SHERIFF
Clerk
1970

Fictitious Business Name Statements

After filing your Fictitious Business Name Statement with the County Clerk in Oakland, you will need to publish it within 30 days of filing in a Newspaper of General Circulation in the area where your business is located. To publish a Fictitious Business Name Statement in the **Alameda Journal, Montclair, Piedmonter, Berkeley Voice or El Cerrito Journal**, please submit the blue stamped and filed copy. We will publish your notice once each week for 4 weeks, file the Proof of Publication with the County Clerk and provide you with a copy for your records. Please contact us at the telephone number below for cost information. Then, mail or deliver it to 1516 Oak Street, Alameda, CA 94501. For more information call 510-748-1666.

Ruth V. Marines, husband and wife. Duly appointed trustee: Millennium Foreclosure Services, LLC. Recorded on 11/05/99 as in

[illegible]

916-387-7728 Stacy Long-
ley, Trustee's Sale Officer
ASAP460688 1/18, 1/25, 2/1
Legal the Journal #0746
Publish January 18, 25,

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY. Pursuant to the terms of the promissory note and deed of trust, dated 12/28/2001-12362101, Loan No. 2001-12362101, Title Order No. 2001-12362101, made by the TRUSTEES, under the terms of the DEED OF TRUST, dated 12/28/2001, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR PROPERTY AND INTERESTS, you will lose your home and the property therein, and the lender will sell the property without notice to you. If you are the owner of the property, you should contact a lawyer. A public auctioneer will sell the property for cash, cashier's check, drawn on a state or national bank, or cash, cashier's check, drawn on a state or federal credit union, or cash, cashier's check, drawn on a state or federal savings and loan association, or cash, cashier's check, drawn on a savings bank specified in Section 1908 of the California Code and authorized to do business in this state will be

3011 Barkley Drive
Richmond, CA 94806
Lowell Etzel
8630 Arbor Dr
El Cerrito, CA. 94530

Kinston Grashin
 10001 Oakview Way
 Kensington, CA 94807
 415-947-1100
 11 Ardmore Rd
 Kensington, CA 94807
 415-947-1100
 10001 Oakview Way
 747 Perilla Ave
 Berkeley, CA 94704
 415-947-1100
 10001 Oakview Way
 Kensington-Warner
 6001 Skyline Dr
 Kensington, CA 94807
 415-947-1100
 Miriam Lieberman
 14 Kerr Ave
 Kensington, CA 94807
 William Lowe
 14 Kerr Ave
 Kensington, CA 94807
 Richard J Stenquist
 1488 Wellesley
 Kensington, CA 94807
 415-947-1100
 73 Kensington Rd
 Kensington, CA 94807
 415-947-1100
 81 Edgemoor Rd
 Kensington, CA 94807
 415-947-1100
 2517 Carquinez Ave
 Kensington, CA 94807
 Janet Y. Seim
 4494 Terrace Dr
 Kensington, CA 94807

valued notice or consented to the proposed action. The [redacted] attorney [redacted] granted access to [redacted] C.A.M.S. with [redacted]

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the person who has died, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the person's representative as soon as you are appointed by the court within 90 days of the date of first issuance of letters as provided in section 9103.

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PAGE C7

... OF N

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UC Botanical Garden offers a free plant

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public as well as the different things that the center has to offer such as a great variety of workshops. They are held every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

Learn easy international folk dances, fun for all ages at the Albany YMCA, 921 Kains Ave. No experience necessary. Wear comfortable shoes and come prepared for a good time. Admission: Adults \$2 and \$1 for kids. For more information, call 525-1130

Family Folkdancing takes place on the third Sundays, 1-2:30 p.m. at Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center, 1317 San Pablo Ave. Instruc-


Swing Dance Classes! Learn East coast swing and Lindy Hop with Michael and Persphone of Shagtime Dance Instruction, on Mondays at the Work Studio, 2566 Telegraph Ave. Beginning Lindy Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East Coast Swing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and beginning Lindy Hop 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, at The Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a monthly series. For more information, call Michael Marangio at 528-7858.

Vista Community College offers classes in Adventure Travel, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays through May 23. The course covers various kinds of adventure travel: hard adventure, soft adventure, and cultural/spiritual ad-

See CALENDAR Page C10

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Sun, Jan 20 - 6:30, 9:00; Mon, Jan 21 - 6:30, 9:15
Tues, Jan 22 - 6:30, 9:15; Wed, Jan 23 - 6:30, 9:15

Mulholland Drive
Fri, Jan 18 - 7:00; Sat, Jan 19 - 7:00
Sun, Jan 20 - 7:00; Mon, Jan 21 - 7:00
Tues, Jan 22 - 7:00; Wed, Jan 23 - 7:00
Thurs, Jan 24 - 7:00

Pom Star - The Legend of Ron Jeremy
Fri, Jan 18 - 9:45; Sat, Jan 19 - 9:45
Sun, Jan 20 - 9:45; Mon, Jan 21 - 9:45
Tues, Jan 22 - 9:45; Wed, Jan 23 - 9:45
Thurs, Jan 24 - 9:45

Pig Skin at the Parkway! NFL Playoffs
Sat, Jan 19 - 12:30-6:30; Sun, Jan 20 - 9:30-4:30

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Sat, Jan 19 - Midnight

Andrews Music! Video Fests
Sat, Jan 24 - 8 to 11

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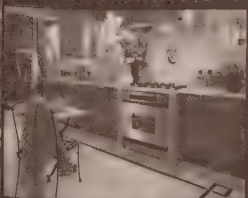
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Calendar

FROM PAGE C9

venture. The curriculum includes adventure travel specials such as biking, mountaineering, overland trips, safaris, rafting, hiking, small boat and expedition-style cruising, and more. For more information, call 981-2931.

Albany Adults School offers classes in Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish this quarter. Most classes meet in the evening once a week for 10 weeks. A few are offered in the afternoon also. Meet at 601 San Gabriel Ave. in Albany, or across the street at the Albany Middle School. Average cost is \$48 plus books. Call the Adult School at 559-6580 for more information.

Folkdance classes, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. (across from the Kensington Library.) Simple and clear lessons for people of all levels. Emphasis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 6-week session (pro-rated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. For more information, call Mel Harte, at 848-5269 before 9 p.m.

Vista Community College, 2020 Milita St., offers its new Sunrise College this spring with classes in accounting, e-commerce, business, Java programming, English, ESL, statistics and Spanish for business professionals. Classes start at 7 a.m. and end at 9 a.m. Call 981-2800 for more information.

Assets Senior Employment offers a job training program for income-eligible people 55 and older living in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn when you learn. Interested in working with children? You can receive college credit in Early Childhood Development while being paid. Class starts soon. Call 238-3554 for more information.

The Albany YMCA offers after school classes for elementary and middle school age children. The YMCA offers sports and dance programs, gymnastics and Hip Hop and enrichment programs such as cooking, sewing and art. Financial assistance always available. For more information, call 525-1130.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly program of classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into people's everyday lives. Classes take place at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. For more information, including complete class descriptions, fees, and instructor bios, see www.juliamorgan.org or call 845-8542 for a brochure.

The Berkeley Adult School (BAS) offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be utilized to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes are free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and computer classes, ranging from introduction to Computers to Advanced Computer Applications. Call 644-8130 for additional information.

The South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St., offers a variety of classes. For additional information and class scheduling, call 883-5222.

Interview Clinics sponsored by Turning Point Center at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, are held on Monday mornings from 9-11 by appointment. 30-minute sessions are \$15 for YWCA members and \$20 for non-members. Call the Center at 848-6370 and leave a message to reserve an appointment time. Be sure to leave a name and telephone number.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, presents Scribble Time on Tuesdays, by appointment. The class is free to YWCA members. This technique is designed to help individuals understand themselves better. Call 848-6370 for additional information. Leave a message for Anne Levine.

The Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., presents an introductory class for the home fruit grower. Proper pruning increases the flavor and size of fruit, as well as preserves the health and

longevity of the tree. There will also be a demonstration of various pruning tools. The class is taught by Greg Peck, owner of an organic landscape and garden design business in the East Bay. Cost is \$10 for nonmembers; \$7.50 for members. Call 548-2220 to reserve a space.

The van der Zanden Studio, 1025 Carleton, No. 9, offers sculpture classes. All levels. Call 843-9445 for additional information.

A CopWatch class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0425 for additional information.

Berkeley Community Media (BCM), Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. For more information call 848-2288 and ask for Patrick, John or Sage.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dances classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kalarjail Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. The Ashkenaz is a nonprofit music and dance community center. Call 525-5054 for additional information.

Life Stories/College and Ceramics

classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Teachers are Diana Bohn and Judith Carroll. Call 845-6830 for additional information.

Contemporary Women's Issues class is forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class offered by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, MFCC. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all women 55 or older. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

Dance and Fitness Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, bellydance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theatre dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

Let's Swing and Jitterbug, 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Volunteers

UC Botanical Garden volunteer decent training begins from 1 to 4 p.m., Feb. 4 through May 20. Learn about the Gar-

den's extensive plant collection and how to lead tours. Fee required. Call 643-1924 to register.

Berkeley Neighborhood Computers, a non-profit community organization, seeks volunteers to recycle, rebuild, and redistribute computer technology for families and schools. Volunteers are needed to be administrative coordinators, computer pick up and create efficient and effective systems for recording data and use of spaced, answer phone calls, log calls, route information and provide filing, organization, and other assistance. Call Mike at 845-1226 for more information.

Volunteers are needed to assemble and wrap beautiful sacred Tibetan books and prepare sacred texts for prayer wheels. Help fund-raise to distribute these treasure to Tibetans in exile. Call 800-338-4238 for more information and location.

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County needs volunteers to maintain its 24-hour crisis line. Make the difference between hope and despair for a person in need. No prior experience required, excellent training provided. Do something to help your community. Call 848-1515 for more information.

Tibetan Aid Project seeks volunteers to help preserve the ancient wisdom of Tibet. Assemble and wrap beautiful sacred Tibetan books. Prepare sacred

texts for prayer wheels. Or help fund-raise to distribute these treasures to Tibetans in exile. For location and more information, call 800-338-4238.

Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, 2001 Dwight Way, seeks volunteers for its Tele-Care program. Volunteers provide friendly, caring check-up calls on a daily basis to seniors, convalescents, and others who are homebound. Volunteers pick the days they would like to call and use phones at Alta Bates. For more information, call Sabra, 204-4487, Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

PediatricCare provides on-going support groups for families coping with illness, grief or loss within the family. Groups meet weekday evenings in Oakland and Walnut Creek. Fees are on a sliding

scale. Call PediatricCare at 525-1130 for more information.

The Alcohol Research Group is conducting a study, funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), to determine the effectiveness of two versus one day treatment and the effectiveness of two versus one day treatment. The study is part of the SMART Project. Interested parties call 1-888-249-8802 for more information.

Volunteers needed at Golden Gate Shop in El Cerrito. A fun, therapeutic to work, all proceeds benefit mentally disabled children. Call 528-9455 for additional

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DENON AVR1801 powerful 100 watt x 5 A/V receiver with Dolby Digital and remote control. \$699 **\$347**

SONY DAVC700 new in-carton DVD Dream System incl. receiver w/ Dolby Digital, 5 spkrs & sub. \$799 **\$699**

PANASONIC CT32SF36 SuperFlat 32" picture tube TV with twin tuner PIP and universal remote. \$999 **\$697**

SONY KV35S40 stereo 35" Trinitron picture tube TV features remote control convenience and more. \$999 **\$797**

PROSCAN PS32B10 new in-carton digital 32" HD-capable TV with twin-tuner PIP and 4:3 format. \$1699 **\$899**

PROSCAN PS36800 digital 36" HD-capable TV features a 4:3 screen format and twin-tuner PIP. \$2499 **\$997**

PROSCAN PS38000 38" widescreen HDTV with built-in satellite receiver and twin-tuner PIP. \$3299 **\$1997**

RCA P46920 stereo 46" Big Screen TV with twin-tuner picture-in-picture and remote control. \$1199 **\$997**

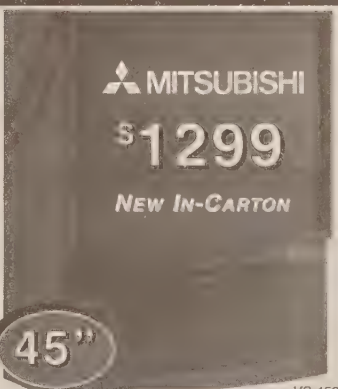
RCA P52920 stereo 52" Big Screen TV with twin-tuner picture-in-picture and remote control. \$1399 **\$1097**

MITSUBISHI VS55705 stereo 55" Big Screen TV with twin-tuner PIP and Diamond Shield. \$1799 **\$1497**

MITSUBISHI WT46805 stereo 46" tabletop HD-upgradeable TV with 16:9 widescreen format. \$2199 **\$1797**

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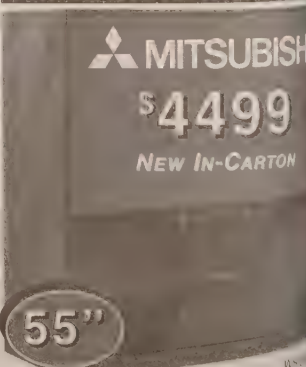
Mitsubishi's cutting-edge Platinum Series HD-upgradeable Big Screens are shining examples of just how good TVs have become. And, with the 16:9 widescreen format, it's like being in a movie theater!

HD-UPGRADEABLE TV



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HD-UPGRADEABLE TV



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Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, January 18, 2002

Section D

Generation Gap: Nissan revives Sentra pocket-rocket [D4]



LEXUS ES 300 has elegant, new styling and comes in only one version. However, option packages allow buyer to customize car to fit individual specifications.

Lexus ES 300 proves quality isn't dependent on flash or gadgets

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

The new 2002 Lexus ES 300 follows a highly successful sales run in the near-luxury category of the car business, a segment that is less susceptible to current economic conditions than the ultra-luxury market, but still severely affected by it nonetheless.

It's only available one way but a host of options packages can customize it to an owner's specifications.

Outside: It's 2 inches longer and just over 2 inches taller than the last version, and with a flat underside

and a revised shape, now slips through the air with a low 0.28 drag coefficient.

The new styling is a bit more elegant than its predecessor. Nearly devoid of chrome, Lexus sculpted the new ES 300 body with an edgy, flowing design, but was also very careful to maintain its understated elegance.

Two creases scallop the hood and play backward toward the windshield, while a pair of swept-back headlamps are larger, crisper and more elegant looking than that of the previous version. The grille

TOM HAGIN

Solo Road Test

is a simple arrangement of four slats that sit just below the telltale Lexus "L" badge on the hood.

A sweeping character line gracefully arcs down each side from front to back, and the rear wraparound tail lights mimic the shape of the head lights and the creased trunk lid.

Multi-spoke alloy wheels are standard, as are grippy 16-inch all-

season tires.

Inside: The new ES 300 is larger on the outside, which translates into more space inside. Generous amounts of leather cover the seats as part of an options package that also adds a six-disc in-dash CD changer and a power moonroof.

Dual-powered and optional heated bucket seats coddle front occupants with good lumbar and side support.

A thin swath of ocher-stained walnut wood trim wraps the interior across the dash and down each front door, while the same wood

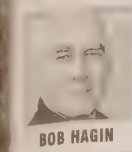
trim is on the steering wheel, shift knob and center console.

New whiplash protection seats have built-in head restraints and offer better crash protection.

On the Road: The ES 300 retains the same 3.0-liter, twin-cam V-6 as before, producing the same 210 horsepower and 220 pound-feet of torque as the older model.

While it gives away some power to its competitors (most are well past the 225-horsepower mark), it's still the smoothest, most unobtru-

See SOLO, Page D2



BOB HAGIN

In auto obituary for Lincoln Continental

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

Unfortunately, this column could as well be put in the obituary column of this paper. It chronicles the birth, life and demise of an old acquaintance, the Lincoln Continental.

Honestly, I can't call it a friend I never owned one, although I worked on several during my years at the bench.

On and off, the Continental has been in the Lincoln lineup in various guises for almost 65 years. As a going mode, name, it's one of the oldest.

In 1938 Edsel Ford (only son of Henry Ford, the cantankerous, willful founding father of the Ford Motor Company) returned from a trip to Europe and asked the Design Department to build a car with European styling that aged as possible from the Lincoln V-12.

The Zephyr was sniffed at by hardcore Lincoln fans who were enamored by the company's huge model luxury classics that were in production. They discounted Zephyr as nothing more than a car with two extra cylinders but, nonetheless, the lower priced, mid-class car saved the company in the Dark Days of the Depression.

At first, Edsel's unique convert-

See HAGIN, Page D2

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Hagin

FROM PAGE D1

ible was considered simply a custom-built plaything of the boss' son, but at the time it was a singular concept in American luxury cars.

It was relatively small, uniquely styled and comparatively inexpensive to build.

It wasn't planned to be a catalog model but several of Edsel's well-to-do friends cajoled him into having copies built for them. The "Continental" name came from its low profile, its box-like top-loading, golf club bag-sized trunk and a single externally-mounted spare tire hanging off its tail end.

Edsel was adamant about including the rear-mounted tire, even though American car makers had abandoned the outside spare as not modern.

The public reaction to the two-door convertible with its boxed off design was so great that the decision was made to go into limited production, albeit with much misgiving on the part of "Old Henry."

The car soon became known as the young working millionaire's car

and although the mechanics of the machine were definitely plebeian in background, the car had such style and class that it was a head-turner everywhere it went.

The last of the truly classic Continentals came out of the Lincoln specialty shops in 1947 and the name was put into mothballs.

In the early '50s, the upper echelons of the Ford Motor Company felt that the Lincoln line needed a shot in the corporate arm to revive its sagging image and a resurrection of the Continental name seemed to be the best answer.

The car that was the result of that decision, the Continental Mark II, was introduced in late '55 amidst much public ballyhoo and carried a \$10,000 price tag, a considerable sum at the time.

Back then, a shopper could buy three standard Ford sedans for the same amount.

The styling was recognizable as being a descendent of the original, but, like an aging ex-football star who let himself go, it was overweight and slightly bloated.

Lincoln made much of the fact that the company reserved the right to make the first bid if and when any of the new Continentals came

on the used car market, a move that it felt necessary to keep the cars from falling into the hands of "...the wrong kind of people."

Just who the "wrong people" were was never made clear and I saw more than one of them on used car lots on Oakland's East 14th Street auto row by the late '50s.

The Continentals of the '60s were crisp, clean and understated in an era of heavy chrome trim. Especially handsome and still very desirable as a collector's car, was the four-door convertible sedan, a body style that Ford had revived from pre-war days.

The Lincoln Continentals of the '70s were unfortunately quite unremarkable in that they were really clones of the Ford Thunderbird; big and packed with creature comforts but not in the same league with their swiftest forebearers.

The Lincoln Continental of the '80s was, in essence, a very fancy Ford sedan.

The original "Edsel" Continental of '38 was noted for its "Continental" spare tire and the concept later became the generic name for kits that would mount a spare tire on the back bumper of '50s and '60s



1940 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL convertible was first to carry the moniker and was popular for its stylish and classy design.

Fords, Chevrolets and Dodges

In a desperate attempt to capitalize on its faded glory, Lincoln pressed the outline of a tire into the trunk lids of those pathetic Ford wannabes.

The current four-door, front-drive

Continental is set to leave the Lincoln lineup at the end of '02. It's a comfortable boulevard cruiser but not spectacular.

I have great hopes for the name, however. The styling department of Ford Motor Company has devel-

oped some stunning concepts in recent years and has had a few of them they're all suitable for production. Hopefully it will hang the Continental name on the most of them and do proud by the name of Edsel Ford

Do-it-yourselfer gets into mechanical trouble working on Datsun pickup

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

Q I have a 1980 Datsun pickup with an automatic transmission, air conditioning and the 1,952 cubic-centimeter four-cylinder engine.

I replaced the head gasket and in doing so I failed to mark the cam sprocket. I replaced the sprocket with the cam lobes up opposite each other.

It runs, but not smoothly. Before, I had 145 pounds of compression but now it's only 120 pounds. My intake manifold vacuum was 17 inches but now it's only 10.

Turning the idle mixture screw has no effect on the idle, which is rough. Do I have late valve timing or a bad vacuum leak? If it's late valve timing, how can I correct this without dismantling the front end which I do not wish to do.

Is there a certain position the lobes

BOB HAGIN
Questions and Answers

should be on when the piston is on top dead center?

B.K. Weed, Calif.

A During the decades I taught auto shop at our local high school, my first rule was to avoid starting a project without first researching it in a manual.

The second was to follow the instructions in the manual. These rules save a do-it-yourselfer a lot of frustration.

Hopefully, you don't have any bent valves, but you may already be in more trouble than you can easily get out of. In order to try to get things rectified, buy a comprehensive shop manual on your

pickup.

One of the best for amateurs is the Haynes manual titled "Nissan/Datsun Pickups and Pathfinder 1980 to 1988." Its catalog number is 771. It will first explain how to initially set the camshaft timing before you start and how to preload the timing chain tensioner and then go through it with you step-by-step.

If you can't find a Haynes book at your auto parts or book stores, go on the Web and type in Haynes Manuals or call 818-498-6703.

Q I have a 1990 Chevrolet four-cylinder Cavalier with more than 250,000 miles. The transmission fluid has been changed and that's all.

What else should be done to it? It runs like a charm and it doesn't use any oil.

B.S. Eugene, Ore.

Adaptive Variable Suspension system improves the ride even more by varying damping rates on all four shock absorbers in response to road conditions.

The rack-and-pinion steering system has improved feedback and quicker turn-in, while the four-wheel disc brakes with a standard anti-lock braking system stop the car quickly and with authority. The system also comes with brake assist and electronic brake force distribution — two systems that help further enhance braking.

2002 LEXUS ES 300

Suggested Retail Price as Tested
Engine Type
Engine Size
Horsepower
Torque
Transmission
Curb Weight
Tires
Brakes
Drive Train
Vehicle Type
Mileage

*Sequential multi-port fuel injection

Safety: Dual front airbags, seat-mounted side-impact airbags and front and rear head curtain airbags, ABS, traction control and front seat belt pretensioners are standard.

Options: Navigation system (with Mark Levinson-brand 240-watt stereo, leather package and memory seats), \$4,860; power rear sunshade, \$210; wood and leather steering wheel, \$330; heated seats, \$440; high intensity discharge headlights, \$640; Adaptive Variable Suspension, \$650; VSC, \$650; trunk mat, \$64; wheel locks,

\$31,505

\$39,963

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210 @ 5,800 rpm

220 @ 4,400 rpm

Five-speed automatic

3,483 pounds

(F/R) P215/60R16 all-season

(F/R) Disc (ABS)/drum (ABS)

Front-engine/front-wheel drive

Five-passenger/four-door

City/highway 21/29

Solo Road Test

FROM PAGE D1

sive engine available in its class. It uses Lexus' variable valve timing technology and a completely redesigned exhaust system that reduces noise at certain engine speeds.

A new "drive-by-wire" electronic throttle improves engine response, while a three-stage variable intake system optimizes its breathing and enhances the torque curve.

A new five-speed automatic transmission capitalizes on the engine's torque curve, and refinements to the torque converter and electronic controls allow it to shift smoother than ever. Traction control is standard, while the optional Vehicle Skid Control system (VSC) can help a driver maintain control in a skid or slide.

Behind the Wheel: The ES 300 chassis is also new. The platform is now stronger, stiffer and less complex than ever. It's a unibody layout, with independent strut-type suspension at all four corners.

The suspension has gained more up-and-down travel for a smoother ride, and the front shocks are tuned to handle a greater variety of road inputs. An optional

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Nissan brings back hot-rod Sentra after a long hiatus

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE
Bob: The hot-rod Nissan Sentra has been a popular car with grassroots enthusiasts ever since its introduction in 1991.

It was a power-tuned version of the standard two-door sedan that didn't look like it should go as fast and as quick as it did.

The 2002 Sentra SE-R brings back this very hot model after a hiatus of many years and the prospects for making it to the best-seller list is very good.

Matt: The "Import Scene" is very in right now and young adults from 18 to 25 are into fast compact cars that they can lower and individualize to suit themselves.

They also add on performance items to make them faster and accelerate better than they did when they came off the showroom floor.

The new Sentra is a good starting point for these kids. In its standard SE-R form, the engine puts out 165 horsepower.

Large displacement four-cylinder engines are something of a rarity today which makes the 2.5-liter unit in this new car unusual. But they have an advantage over their smaller-displacement competition in that they deliver lots of torque, which equates to lots of low-speed pulling power.

The SE-R develops 175 pound-feet of torque at 4,000 rpm which means that when it's coupled to the five-speed manual transmission, the driver doesn't have to fuss with a lot of downshifting to stay up with traffic or keep a head of steam up on a long grade.

But for drivers who don't want to shift for themselves, the SE-R has a four-speed automatic on its option list.

Bob: Nissan dubbed this little four-banger engine the QR25 for reasons that they didn't share with me, and it contains the usual modern high-tech accoutrements.

The entire engine is aluminum and the head sports a pair of overhead cams and continually variable cam timing for a good spread of power over a broad range.

The tech report that came with our test car says that it's the same technology that's used in the hot new Nissan Maxima.

The driver will probably never see the slick microfinish of the crankshaft or the Moly-coating on the pistons but it's those kinds of neat hot-rod tricks that give the SE-R engine its smoothness and projected

MATT AND BOB HAGIN

Generation Gap

durability.

The cams are chain-driven, which I like better than the common plastic belt drive that most other cars use because it doesn't have to be changed as often.

Matt: As it was with the earlier SE-Rs, the handling of the car is great considering that it's front-wheel drive and has pretty conventional suspension items.

There are MacPherson struts up front and a beam axle in back that's held in place by a set of control links.

The wheels are 16-inch alloys that carry 195/55R high performance tires.

Nissan hasn't chinted in the brake department either. The SE-R has disc brakes on all four corners, which makes stopping distances relatively short, but I was disappointed that an anti-lock braking system was only available as an option.

Fast cars like this can seduce drivers to push themselves and it would behoove them to be able to count on ABS to help get them out of trouble. If it were standard equipment, there wouldn't be a choice.

Bob: The interior of the SE-R is also pretty standard sports sedan stuff with cloth-covered bucket seats up front and a comprehensive assortment of gauges in a cluster on the dash.

I could do without the orange illumina-



NISSAN'S version of the Sentra keeps earlier power-rocket muscle with the SE-Rs, the handling of the car is great considering that it's front-wheel drive and has pretty conventional suspension

tion on the gauges but I guess that I'd get used to it if I drove the car enough.

The sound system has been carefully selected to appeal to the younger set and if the driver isn't careful and the sound is turned up, the resonance is strong enough to almost blow the windows out of the car.

Matt: There's one other attribute that the Sentra has that's important to a guy like me. The first thing I did was to check to see if I could easily strap in my two child seats inside.

They fit fine in the SE-R and the rear doors swing open wide enough so that I don't have to wrestle the girls into place.

Bob: I'm proud that you have your priorities straight, Matt.

NISSAN SENTRA SE-R

Suggested Retail	\$15,999
Price as Tested	\$17,416
Engine Type	DOHC 16-valve 2.5-liter L4 w/SMFI*
Engine Size	152 cid/2466 cc
Horsepower	165 @ 6,000 rpm
Torque	175 @ 4,000 rpm
Transmission	Five-speed manual
Curb Weight	2,730 pounds
Fuel Capacity	13.2 gallons
Wheelbase	99.6 inches
Tires	(F/R) P195/55R16 all-season
Brakes	(F/R) Disc (ABS)/Disc (ABS)
Drive Train	Front-engine/front-wheel drive
Vehicle Type	Five-passenger/four-door
Mileage	City/highway 24/29
0-60 mph	8.3 seconds

*Sequential multi-port fuel injection

Your car's color reveals something about you

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS
From firenza red to rave green, cars showcased at the recent Greater LA Auto Show spanned a broad spectrum of color, each shade carefully selected to reflect the style and image associated with the brand — and with the prospective buyer.

Basics like black suggest a certain dignity, a color for executives and Hollywood elite, while white, frequently a front-runner in the most popular category, appeals to those with a practical and patriotic streak.

Here's a rough guide to other popular colors, according to vehicle coater PPG Industries:

Silver: The most popular hue for sports cars and family vehicles, it denotes modernity and at the same time doesn't need frequent cleaning.

Red: Always an eye-catcher, this is big for trucks and other ostentatious vehicles.

Unfortunately, it also catches cops' eyes, making it the most-ticketed color.

Yellow: Considered a safe shade, yellow and its natural-colored cousins lead the way for luxury cars.

Green: Formerly the most sought-after shade, now only 10 percent of buyers opt for the quiet, reserved color.

Blue: Cool, calm and kind of boring. Only 11 percent of car buyers opt for this shade.

Well aware of such things, manufacturers have tried to connect the colors with the type of car and the audience they're trying to sell to.

For instance, Ford's latest electric concept, the Think City, exudes a practical air with its flat red finish, making it look almost like an oversize plastic model.

Geared for the environmentally savvy consumer, the Think City doesn't need the

glossy brilliance of Ford's celebrated muscle cars.

"It's a different execution, very environmentally friendly," said Jim O'Connor, division president. "It's very durable."

This is in sharp contrast to the Mini Cooper S, a race compact designed to evoke rally cars of old. Although it can be custom-ordered in more than 30 color combinations, designers chose to bring out the Chili Red model with white racing stripes.

"It's fun and youthful," said Jack Pitney, Mini's general manager. "It gives emotional appeal to the car."

And if there's still no color that quite tickles your fancy, Ferrari has an attractive option. Bring in a swatch, a picture, or even a tube of lipstick and they'll match the color on your new sports car. It's several thousand dollars extra but, hey, if you're buying a Ferrari, you probably won't care.

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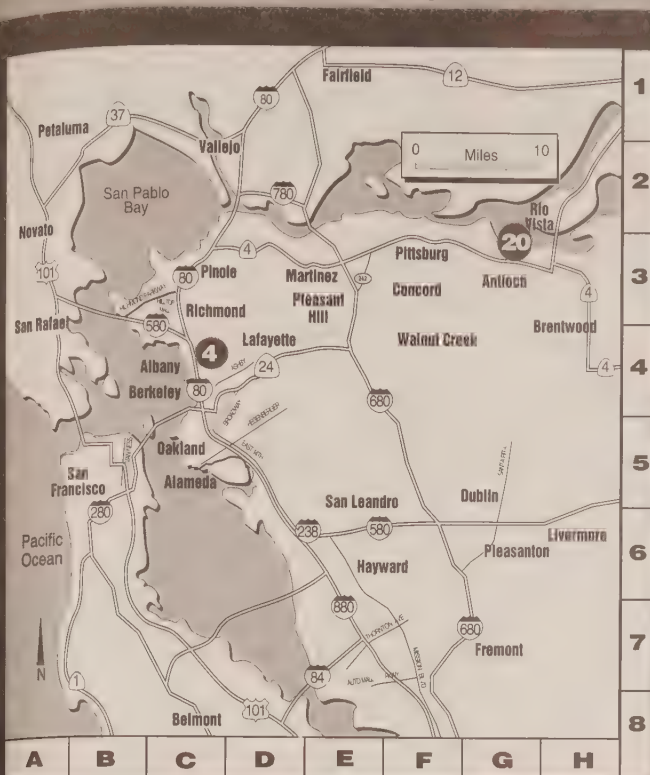
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J.P. HAULING Dirt clean-up, roof tear-off, girt, concrete, demolition, etc. 510-782-3484

NEW HAULING Bobcat Service, Grading, Demolition, Excavation, Drains, Retaining Walls, & Concrete Removal, Garage hauling. Lc. #71774 510-338-1018

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563 Hauling

ADAMS POINT HAULING Dump trucks, road jobs, yard cleaning, and appliance removal. Friendly flexible service. Good rates, & ref. please call Joe 510-389-2000

American Hauling Dump runs, cleanups, appliances, etc. Same day service in most cases. Free estimates. Call Kevin. (510) 220-1358

Bob's Hauling-7 days wk 925-625-0483 ext-5555

BUNN'S hauling all types of domestic & const. debris. Clean out gar., basement & yard. Free est. & timeliness. 510-638-9929

4 CORNER Project A clean & safe non profit org. that helps the poor. We haul debris, clean up, & save tax donation receipt for usable items. Free, good & honest others. 510-234-2794

DANIEL'S HAULING Garb. tree removal, garage disassemble, junk hauling, bobcat. (510) 232-5042

DAN'S HAULING Hauling, hauling, junk removal, call today! (510) 517-3600

E & G Hauling & Recycling Junk, debris, house & metals. Germ 925-505-8234

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565 Housekeeping & Home Services

BARBARA & STEVE'S HOUSECLEANING SVC. Quality Work • Excel Rates • Own Prices • Own Supplies • Free Est. 510-614-8259

CARDCLEANS HOMEKEEPING Providing domestic cleaning services to the east bay area. 510-872-9070

CENTRAL American refugees seek employment in housecleaning, gardening, childcare, painting, moving. Skilled & ref. 510-864-9011

Complete Hsekr. Good rates. Low prices. Free est. (510) 669-1531

C & V Housecleaning Quality Work. Good rates. Free est. (510) 882-8114

EXPRESS HOUSE CLEANING Let us do the hard work for you! General cleaning and move outs. Servicing all areas. Free rates. Ref. 510-337-3573

HOUSECLEANING 1x or Weekly. Monthly. 15 years. excellent. excellent references. 510-452-1903

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I'LL DO YOUR WAY 20 Yrs. Housecleaning Exp. 510-337-3573

MELDA'S Housecleaning Excellent. Excellent cleaning service. 1st time discount. Please call. 925-360-1586

Impeccable Interiors We Take Our Service To Your Needs. 510-337-3573

QUEENS Housecleaning We provide excellent & superior service. 510-337-3573

FREE ESTIMATE

Reliable Housekeeping Home, business & school. Weekly, weekly. Excellent. References. Call Rick (510) 838-0185

SALAZAR Hsng Home, business & school. Refs. Est. (925) 769-9332

SUNSHINE Housecleaning Local woman 25 yrs. seeking clients. Debbie 925-828-9495

TINA'S House Care Svc. Servicing, Danville, San Ramon, & more. 510-625-9700 for appt

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566A Licensed Contractors

CREATIVE CARPENTRY for your hrm, kit., baths decks, additions. Fine carpentry, tile, elec. plumbing, drywall, etc. Call Daniel 510-450-0435, Lc. #718999

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BRICK, stones, flpies, etc 20 yr exp. 978-868-9186

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DIVORCE or financial problem? Consultation available. Good, bad, no credit, or bankruptcy. We can help you. Lc. #1-877-209-137

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NOTICE: Advertisers offering household moving services must, by law, be licensed by the Public Utilities Commission. Those advertisers offering Household Moving Services are not required to have a license, however, cannot perform household moving services without the proper P.U.C. licensing.

PARK-TILDEN MOVERS Family Owned Since 1967 Free Est. Small Jobs OK Fully Licensed & Insured Picking Services Available 714-293-96 510-632-2170

568 Music Lessons & Services

DRUM LESSONS ALL LEVELS. Ex Berklee College of Music instructor, seeks enthusiastic students. Beginners to prof welcome. Call Alan (510) 865-3943

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THE PAINT COMPANY Interior/Exterior • Finest Prep-work • Waterproofing • Residential Commercial • Free Estimates • Insured • Lic #515120 510.527.2673

ABSOLUTE AFFORDABLE Experts. Exhnt. waterproofing. 1-day free est 925/254/3753

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MIKE'S PAINTING Custom Painting, Residential/Commercial, European Workmanship, 100% of referrals. Reasonable. Free est. Bonded. Lc. #527736 510-465-1286

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PROFESSIONAL PAINTER Small jobs OK. Free est. Unice, Mike, (925) 521-0511

RENOVATIONS BY SHERRY Home Improvement Service. Painting, plaster & drywall repairs, water damage repairs. Can help you prepare your property for sale. Inexpensive. References. (510) 215-0002

career

bayarea.com/careerbuilder

250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTING
Full Charge Bookkeeper
Small office seeks detail oriented individual. Computer & phone skills req. Benefits. Send resume to: 5303 Adeline St., Oakland, CA 94608

ACCOUNTING
Growing corp. seeks person w/ strong book. In pay roll, interviewing. AP & 401K admin. 2 yr. exp. Attention to detail & ability to manage time efficiently a must. Full med/dental/benefits. 401K, p.d. vacation. Fax resume & salary history to 925-935-6075

Accounting Manager
Busy Danville based office. Multiple RPO properties, all phases. MANSO exp. prof. Competitive salary, benefits. Call: 925-743-3084 or email: cmoninterest.com

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
Electrical contractor, centrally located, seeks hands-on, multi-tasked accounting manager to manage all accounting aspects of providing construction job costing, cash flow projection, strong supervisory/mgmt abilities. BS degree in accounting, 5+ yrs. experience. Organized, detail oriented, computer & interpersonal skills. Excellent salary/benefits. Fax resume: Electrical 925-935-9167 or email: ckelsch@jgcpa.com

ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR
\$40K-\$45K per yr.
Must have at least 2 yrs. Heavy Payroll exp. Must have experience with construction contracts, taxes, & insurance. Must have exp. as a supervisor or a plus. If interested please respond to: JOE CODE-PAAC000 FAX 510-222-7499 OR E-mail: brown@repwest.com

ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR
ADP, Kronos, & Lawson exp. preferred. Must have at least 4 yrs. Heavy Payroll exp. Exp. with union contracts, taxes, & ins. preferred. Supervisory or a plus. If interested please respond using Job Code: JOE CODE-PAAC000 FAX 510-222-7499 E-mail: brown@repwest.com

ACCOUNTING
Payroll clerk needed for high-volume, well-established, contractor. Excellent salary/benefits req'd. Prior union exp. a plus. Send res. to: attn: HR, 2455 Martinez, CA 94506

ACCOUNTING
Please see our ad under Dental Orthodontic Financial Coordinator

ACCOUNTING SENIOR ACCOUNTANT
Large Company in the East Bay looking for a Senior Accountant. Candidate should have a minimum of 5 yrs. experience in accounting and finance. Bachelor's degree required. Extensive Excel and Access highly preferred. Salary up to \$65K. E-mail resume to: mrodriguez@kforce.com or fax: attn: Kforce at (925) 951-1295.

ACCOUNTING
STAND-ALONE Domestic Violence (formerly Battered Women's Alternatives) has the following opening in our Finance Dept.: • Experience supervising general accounting functions, including payroll. • Non-profit exp. with a focus on grants mgmt. • Exp. in personnel mgmt. of professional level staff. • BA in Accounting. • Fluency in MS Office. • For immediate consideration, please forward your res. to: resume@standalone.org or FAX to (925) 678-0000

ACCOUNTING
The candidate for this position will have the following experience & qualifications: • Experience supervising general accounting functions, including payroll. • Non-profit exp. with a focus on grants mgmt. • Exp. in personnel mgmt. of professional level staff. • BA in Accounting. • Fluency in MS Office. • For immediate consideration, please forward your res. to: resume@standalone.org or FAX to (925) 678-0000

ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT
Creative & energetic person wanted for adult daycare, providing personal care & leading activities. Willing adults and frail elderly. Great working environment. HS diploma & people skills a must. CNA a +. B. Sobriety, M-F 9-3pm. Call Jenna at 510-669-1005 or Fax Resume to: 510-669-1008

ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT
FT opening for Activities Assistant. Must be dependable, creative, and have enthusiasm and motivational abilities. Requires H.S. Diploma or equivalent. Please Fax resume to: 925-256-1676

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250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
North American title has an immediate opening for experienced individual to join its executive team. Must have 2+ yrs administrative exp. MS Office req. Competitive salary/benefits. Fax resume to: Personnel, 925-389-3291. No calls. Please EOE/AAE/M/F/D.

ADMINISTRATIVE
Operations mgr. for ins. in mtg. mgmt. co. in Oakland, seeks FT, indiv. w/ excel. admin. computer, & comm. skills at mgmt. level. Fax Resume to: 510-451-3912

ADMINISTRATIVE
DANVILLE 5 yr. old mktg. company seeks sharp, self-motivated, detail oriented, computer literate indiv. for direct sales/business development & other office work. Must be a team player. Willing to travel. Int. Send A.C.I. Inc. 610-451-3912 Danville, CA 94526

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
25 hrs. w/ bnf. knowledge of MS Office, data entry & Internet. MAC exp. a plus. Post. immediate. Call: 925-935-0820

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
Enthusiastic, detail oriented, computer literate individual with telephone presence. Duties incl. client contact, account tracking & reports w/ power/mgmt. 6 p.m. but not req. Growth & advancement potential. Fax resume 910-521-0118

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250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE
Exam administrator/General office. Admin. business has an immediate FT position open for an energetic, multi-tasking individual. Must possess strong organizational and communication skills. We are looking for someone to work between 10 hours a week. The starting rate is \$11.00 per hour. Visit our website for more information about our organization. For more information, please call 1-800-798-3926 ext. 800-656-2349, or submit your resume electronically (joe.k@repwest.com). Positions will begin immediately. EOE

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To support bridge MS office skills & general office duties at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel. 2-4 years experience. Excellent salary/benefits. Must. GINA 925-969-1817

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250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
Soc. Serv. agency in Marin Reception, phones, clerical. No exp. req. Res. 415-454-7785

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
Local fun company needs a computer literate, multi-tasker to enter data, update files, exp. a +. Please fax cover & resume (925) 933-6807

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250 Help Wanted

ASSISTANT Mgr. National Property Mgmt. Co. seeking FT. Mgr. for 200 unit apt. complex in Concord. Exp. pref. Bilingual a plus. Res. 925-969-9756

ATTENDANTS: Do you live in the Concord/Pleasant Hill area? You could earn some extra money working 730am-9pm or weekend helping developmentally disabled adults. Leave message at 925-962-3817

ATTENDANTS: Looking for energetic, self-starters w/ good sense of humor. Should be organized, flexible & reliable. Must be excited about working w/ developmentally disabled adults. No experience needed. Fax resume to: 925-962-3817

AUTO-ASST. MANAGER
Clearly, FT position available. Starting \$10/hr. LV. Message 925-962-3817

AUTO BODY TECH
Experienced body painter. Pitsburg. (925) 432-9911

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careerbuilder

bayarea.com/careerbuilder

250 Help Wanted

GLASS INSTALLER & S.R. Must be experienced. \$200 Sign up Bonus. Call Now 925-803-1331

GRANT WRITER, Non-profit organization, works from home. (925) 600-0905

HAIR CUTTERS Bay Area Cuts, Price M/Z, Anti-Shop, Birchwood, great compensation, job satisfaction. Call 925-783-3135

HAIRCUTTER/TOP PAY Job Security Fun, Busy GREAT TIPS. Call 925-735-2887

HAIRCUTTER/TOP PAY Job Security Fun, Busy GREAT TIPS. Call 925-735-2887

HAIRSTYLING station in cozy P.H. salon for rent \$132 per/wk. (925) 928-9885

HAIRSTYLIST Exp'd, FT/PT, hourly, comm. med. dental, sick & vac. pay. Concord salon. Call Annette 925-825-3377

HAIRSTYLIST FT/PT, W.C. salon, good rental, only 10 min. to 405. Call 925-825-3377

HAIR Stylist 10-14/hr. brntr. Mgrs. make 40K. 925-889-1408

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST FT PT busy tri-vy. salon. Rental or comm 925/820-6223

250 Help Wanted

HAIRSTYLIST needed FT at Hair Systems. Concord (925) 886-0885

HAIRSTYLIST PT/FT Sal. comm + tp - \$16-20 busy Conc. salon 925/682-8312

HEALTHCARE ATC Healthcare Staffing Services, a leading medical staffing provider, has expanded to the Bay Area.

Healthcare Professionals

LAB TECHS PHLEBOTOMISTS, EX-RAY TECHS, EMTs

ATC Healthcare Staffing Services

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250 Help Wanted

HAIRSTYLISTS Concord Salon, No clientele, med. dental, 401K, Call Crystal 925-825-3377

HAIRSTYLISTS Upscale children's hair salon in San Ramon \$14/hr and great tips. Contact Gina 510 915-4617

HEALTHCARE Our fast growing Senior-Health Care Organization providing services for seniors in new Fremont site seeks:

• Health Workers (2 home care positions)

• Driver (Part Time)

• Rehab Aide (Part Time)

Great Job with Great Benefits Fax HR (AND FRMT) 415-292-6745

HEALTHCARE PLANNED PARENTHOOD Are you passionate about women's health? Do you believe that every child should be wanted & loved? Planned Parenthood seeks for seniors in new Fremont site seeks:

• Health Workers (2 home care positions)

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• Health Workers (2 home care positions)

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• Rehab Aide (Part Time)

250 Help Wanted

HOSPITAL Doctors Medical Center San Ramon has an immediate opening for a **Counselor**. Please see our ad under Counseling.

Doctors Medical Center

HOTEL Come & be a part of the East Bay's only Five Star Diamond Hotel

• FT Front Desk Agent

• PT Front Desk/Res. Agent

• PT & PT PBX Operator

• PT Lead Housekeeper

• Room Cleaners

• Restaurant Server

• Pastry Cook

Ext. sal. ben. 401K

Resumes Only

Arroyo Park Hotel

3297 Mt Diablo Blvd

Lafayette, CA 94549

FAX 925-299-4382

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Arroyo Park Hotel

3297 Mt Diablo Blvd

250 Help Wanted

LOAN OFFICER Exp'd., 80% split, private bus., all major lenders. Pleasanton, IDG, Olympic Funding 800-640-5593

HOTEL CONCORD HILTON is currently seeking

• Asst. Front Office Mgr

• Greeter/Concierge

• Pastry Cook

Please apply in person, Tues.-Thurs., from 9-11 am at Human Resources, Hilton Concord, 1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord, CA 94520

For more info, call 925-827-2000 or ask for the JOB HOTLINE EOE

HOTEL Medical conference planning co. needs professional

to coordinate logistics with hotels, local recreation & travel arrangements. Meeting coordination exp. required. Fast paced with multiple clients & many travel involved. Send resume & current salary to 1950 Silvergate Dr., Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95131. Fax 925-828-2121 Email: Loford@earthlink.net

HOTEL Full-Serv. co. hotel located in Jack London Square

• Night Auditor

Dedicated, detail oriented. Send resume to 510-834-3074 or call 510-444-2032

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250 Help Wanted

GENERAL MANAGER in TRAINING East Bay Area Property Management

ESA Services, Inc. is a national leader in extended stay lodging. We are seeking GM/TS to oversee property operations under the brand name of Extended Stay America. Opportunities exist in the East Bay Area. Recruits: previous mgmt. exp., effective leadership and coaching skills, a strong work ethic, and ext. comm. skills. As a GM/TS, you will oversee all property operations. Primary responsibilities include employee selection, training, quality control, ensuring superior guest service and profit maximization. College degree preferred. We offer a competitive salary & benefits package. High growth opportunity. Fax resume to (415) 733-5555. Visit our website at: <http://www.esa.com>. Or call (925) 641-3151. Apply by 02/05/02. EOE

HOUSEKEEPER Retirement, Community in Pleasant Hill seeks FT housekeeper day shift, FT & Sat. Apply Chateau, 2770 Pleasant Hill Road

HOUSEKEEPING/MAINT Large Condo Complex, FT/PT housekeeper & maintenance. History, Brickyard Landing. Call (910) 235-7572

HOUSING PROGRAM ANALYST City of Concord (\$47,454-\$78,000)

Responsible for housing projects/developments, & assists with the FCO Block Grant program and Redevelopment Housing Set-Aside

• Housing assistance for housing & paint rehab, emergency home repairs, and other housing needs. Requires BA and 3 years experience in housing assistance. Email: concord.ca.us, or call (925) 671-3151. Apply by 02/05/02. EOE

HUMAN RESOURCES/Labor Relations Join a World-Class Team

• A world-class ISO 9002 certified steel-finishing facility on the beautiful Delta in Pittsburg, California is seeking a Human Resources Administrator. This entry-level position is responsible for labor contract administration, grievance procedures, and grievance case development. The qualified candidate should possess the ability to work effectively with union representatives & supervisors. Excellent verbal & written communications skills are a must. Candidates must be PC literate. Send resume to: JSS-POSCO Industries, P.O. Box 471, 900 Livermore Road, Pittsburg, CA 94565. Recruiting@jssposco.com 925-439-6179 FAX

HOTEL The Sheraton Concord Hotel is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

• Asst. Front Office Mgr

• Banquet Set-Up

• Cocktail Servers

• Housekeeping

• Room Cleaners

Please apply in person at the hotel, 1000 N. Main St., Concord, Mon-Fri, 10am to 4pm, or fax resume to 925-321-3172

HOUSECLEANERS: to clean model homes in Alameda, San Thos. areas - 388-134-4227

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HOUSE/YARD WORK
 on Wed./Fri. A.M. \$8/hr
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 510-658-4967

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ADULT/elderly care your
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ELDERLY CARE nine yrs
exp hardworking honest w/
refers (825) 439-5075

4883, 800/705-8629

NANNY: Concord/Cayton
live-in, 2 children P/T
xpng 925-672-9236

NANNY: live-in, 14 mo ba-
in Ant. pvt. mbia, speak
alog 925-978-0927

NANNY: it's hokong, Orinda,
wife, 6 days a wk, mba

HOME Caregiver avail
Highly exp., excel. ref \$15
hr 510/787/3112, 787-2625

NANNY AVAILABLE

Household Mgr./Nanny,
cook, FT/P/T plus even-
wkd some over nights, in
your home Long term Live

out Excellent references
925-281-4261

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tage - salary Must own
Help with homework,
sonal assistant to singe-
r (925) 362-4990

NANNY, Tue, Wed, Thur 2-
n. Must drive, in
ping \$12/hr. San Ra-

NANNY, Loving, creative,
live out of 10+ yrs. w/car
soon avail. 3-4 days/wk.
exp w/young children & specia-
needs 925-376-2632

NANNY Loving w/8+ yrs
exp. 1-3 days/wk. Toddlers
need. 925-362-4261

Section

2 Vehicles Wanted

**CALL US FIRST!
DONATE YOUR CAR!**

814 Trucks

DODGE 1997 3500 Club Cab, Cummins Diesel, long bed, boxes & racks, A/T, \$17,500 (925) 606-6700

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Free Immediate Towing
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CARS FOR SALE AT:
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 e Day Srvc. Tax Ded.
 all (925) 284-2207
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\$\$\$\$\$ CASH \$\$\$

Commercial Vehicles

D 1985 350 Fatbed al-
stake liftgate A/T smog-
\$3500 925/260-1169

Trucks

VIOLET 2000 Silver-
ext. cab, loaded, lithr-
lowered, cust wheels,
\$21K 925-778-1722

FORD 1999 Ranger XLT
22K, CD, pw, 5 spd \$6900
707-373-1105; 554-6918

FORD 1998 F150 XLT, V6
extra cab, new tires, 67K
\$11,500 obo 925/932-3071

FORD 1997 150, 6cyl, wht
w/alt paint, crk. work truck
131K \$6000 obo, Call Baez

Charger, immac.
1, BK, \$24.5K (725)
0823

VOLVO 2000 271 Silo-
dor 19K, loaded,
999 925/980/7462

VOLVO 1999 Exp. Cab
Auto, A/C, 15K mi.
#177116\$12,995
Exp. 01/22/02

FORD 1996 Ranger Ext.
cab AT ps, black, 80K mi.
cust r/mstires,grn,shocks
exhaust,ghis alarm
\$2000 stereo My baby
\$8700 (510) 333-9402

FORD 1994 Ranger V6, 4x4
AT, A/C, cc, cd, shell, 112K
\$7300 cab. (925) 778-6332

atum of Pleasanton 1-888-203-5287 VIOLET 1998 1500, rice cond. Like new, 00 (925) 766-7745 VIOLET 1997 SS-S10 blk step-side, SHARP 200 obo 925/825-2399	FORD 1994 F-350 uttl body, 150K, at, clear \$6.9K/bu 925/283/6800 FORD 1994 F150 XLT, pw pl, tow pkg, alloys, Gd cond \$6000 obo. Days (925) 335-3573; Eves 372-0482 FORD 1994 F150, toolbox rack, clean, \$4000.
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VROLET 1997 S10, su-
fact. 4.3L HO, A/P
\$9995 (925) 803-1768

VROLET 1997 Short
fact. blk. cust. sus-
sion, 36K, cin., top
trade 925-383-0715

VROLET 1996 Silver-
gold cust. \$13,000
Call (925) 825-0805

(925) 997-8262

FORD 1993 Ranger
4 cyl., 5 spd., good cond
\$3300. Steve 510/799-1063

FORD 1992 F150 XLT King
Cab. 54K mi., all pwr., V8,
\$7800. (510) 508-9116

FORD 1991 F150 Lanat XLT
Ext. Cab. fully loaded
-beh. cap. chrome, etc.

VROLET 1996 Ext V8, Silverado, auto liner, alloys \$12,995 TE116921 LITHIA DGE 925-798-4000	FORD 1990 250, wht., shel w/rack, good cond Great work truck. 925-820-5571
VROLET 1995 longbed V7, rack, toolbox, runs \$7900 925/513-8618	FORD 1990 F150, exc cond, 116K, 5.0L loaded, \$4800 (925) 686-3543
VROLET 1993 S10 V6 ext, 100000 miles, 100000	FORD 1989 F250, low mil, tow pkg., runs/looks great

1986, shell/rock, Alt. g.
 \$3950 925/363-0098
 VROLE 1992 Step
 V8, pw/pl, excel cond
 0 OBO (925) 679-8638
 VROLE 1988 S10, V6,
 A/C, camper shell, &
 n more, runs perfect
 Must See! \$2750
 (925) 672-8378
 \$5500 obo. (925) 355-1311
 FORD 1989 F250 XLT Ex-
 cel., mech. perf 150K
 \$4500 obo 925/631-0314
 FORD 1987 F600
 DUMP TRUCK \$6000
 (925) 685-0834
 FORD 1987 Ranger 4x4
 Ext cab, runs good

<p>ROLET 1987 C-20, V8, 48K, \$2000. Ask avid, (510) 526-9635</p>	<p>\$2000 obo. (925) 687-3241</p>
<p>ROLET 1987 E Cami- 8, grt. shape w/extras, 0 (925) 284-8345</p>	<p>FORD 1985 F150, new trans., gd. cond., runs gd \$2300 obo. (925) 709-1562</p>
<p>ROLET 1985 E Cami- 05 V8, auto, gd. cond. 0 Steve 510/799-1063</p>	<p>FORD 1985 F150 ext. cab. 351 new motor, short bed, orig. owner. \$3850/obo (925) 447-3564</p>
	<p>FORD 1984 F150 XL, brown plastic</p>

VROLET 1984 Scotts-
longbed, 6.1 L, 97K
AM/FM cass. AC, ps.
800 obo (510) 812-5609

VROLET 1980 El
dno. New brakes/tires/
radio/more. Still needs
a work. Looks great.
800. (925) 899-1024

VROLET 1969 C-10

V8, PU, 3500, 4 bolt
 Cab, A/T, needs work
 0 obo. (707) 746-5648
 GE 2000 Dakota 4x4,
 Cab, A/T, loaded, 24K
 19.5K (925) 648-1188
 GE 2000 Dakota Sport
 Cab, A/T, V6, liner,
 wht., 41K, \$11,900
 680-8723 ext-222
 '80 \$1200. 510/223-1505
 FORD 1973 F250 Ranger
 XLT 3/4T, 460, A/T, tow runs
 gd. \$1500. (925) 935-0938
 GMC 1998 5.0, 31K, 2x4,
 dropped, showroom cond.
 xtras \$14.9K 925/443-8038
 GMC 1994 1500, SLE, sin-
 gle cab, long bed, 2whl, dr-

GE 2000 Ram 1500, cab, 2WD, wht, 68K, 90. 925-443-1708

GE 2000 RAM SLT v8, cab, Cab, full power, v8, low mil. \$15,995 YM242065 LTHA DGE 925-798-4000

GE 1999 PU, 50k, orig.

90K, \$8800. (510) 663-2902

GMC 1993 1500. Longbed, 58K, A/T, box, rack, excel. cond. \$7200. 925/383-6144

GMC 1985 3/4 Ton, utility bed, \$2500, (925) 228-5936

HONDA 1999 Civic LX Sedan 4Dr, auto, a/c, full

GE 1998 Dakota, 4x4,
T Club Cab, blk, long
513K, (510) 420-8815

GE 1998 Dakota Club
4x4 V8, shell, 44K, ex-
cond. \$20,000. Obo
94-8887

ISUZU 1989 Trooper, stick,
runs good, good condition,
\$2500 obo. (925) 586-9260

Nissan 1999 Frontier XE
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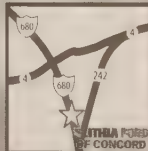


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America's Car & Truck Store

Shopping Plus

Friday, January 18, 2002

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

Stews help take the edge off winter

BY JOHN GRIFFIN
SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS
Winter demands stew, like a cold
chicken soup.
The sight of a pot bubbling on
the stove can take the edge off an
afternoon in an instant. Even
the smell of beef simmering with
potatoes and carrots in a slow-
cooker can perk up the grayest

clude ancho, pasillo and guajillo
chiles, peppers that go with any
kind of meat. But be careful if
you're trying this type of stew at
home, he warned. A little too
much pepper and the whole stew
will be too spicy, he said. "Add lit-
tle by little and start tasting while
it cooks. You have to be careful
what you're doing."

For that reason, Trejo doesn't
recommend slow cookers like
Crock-Pots where you add all your
ingredients at the beginning of the
day and expect to have dinner
ready when you get home hours
later. You could ruin the stew, he
said. "If you overcook it, it starts to
fall apart."

Still, a stew made in a slow-
cooker is far preferable to one from
a can, Vollstedt said. That's why
most of her recipes are adaptable
to the one-pot machines. The only
added step might be browning the
meat beforehand, which must be
done if the recipe calls for it.

Stew recipes are largely guide-
lines meant to be followed in spirit
rather than to the letter. If you don't
like the sweetness that carrot im-
parts, cut back on it and add a lit-
tle more potato. If turnips don't turn
you on, then substitute another root
vegetable.

The rules to remember involve
how long you cook a stew. If you
don't cook it long enough, Vollstedt
said, the flavors won't have time
to coalesce. If you cook it too long,
however, the vegetables could turn
to mush, Trejo said.

Aidells also warns against the
long-held tradition of using flour as
a thickener. Too many cooks use
too much flour, he said, resulting in
what he calls "steam table cafe-
teria stew." Anyone who has eaten in
a school lunchroom should re-
member that gelatinous concoction,
which was gummy on the tongue
and tasted more of flour than either
meat or vegetables.

If a stew is too thin for your
tastes, remove the meat and vege-
tables and then reduce the liquid,
Aidells said. Once it has reduced to
your liking, simply put the solids
back and serve.

"You can't miss on a stew," Voll-
stedt said. "That's why people like
them."

COQ AU VIN

4 thick slices bacon, diced
3 pounds meaty chicken parts,
excess fat and skin removed
3 tablespoons flour
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
1/2 teaspoon dried marjoram
1/2 teaspoon salt
Freshly ground black pepper, to
taste

1 bay leaf
1 cup dry red wine
1 cup chicken stock or broth
1 tablespoon tomato paste
8 ounces medium mushrooms
1 1/2 cups baby carrots
1 cup small boiling onions,
peeled, or 1 cup frozen small
onions

3 tablespoons chopped fresh
parsley, for garnish

In a Dutch oven over medium-
high heat, cook bacon until crisp,
about 5 minutes. With a slotted
spoon, remove bacon to a large
plate. Leave 2 tablespoons bacon
drippings in Dutch oven. Reduce
heat to medium. Brown chicken in
batches in bacon drippings, about
5 minutes on each side. As it
browns, transfer chicken to the plate
holding the bacon. (If there are not
enough bacon drippings, add a lit-
tle oil or butter.)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Over medium heat, add flour to
Dutch oven and stir until bubbly.
Add thyme, marjoram, salt, pepper,
bay leaf, wine, stock and tomato
paste. Stir until thickened, about 2
minutes. Add mushrooms, carrots
and onions. Return bacon and
chicken and any accumulated
juices to Dutch oven.

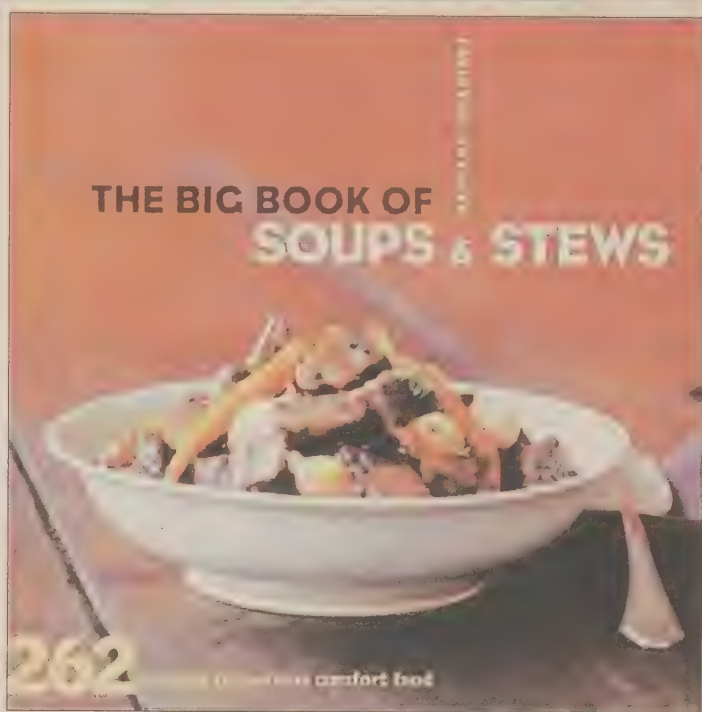
Bake, covered, until chicken is
no longer pink in the center and
vegetables are tender, about 1 hour
and 15 minutes. Remove bay leaf
and discard. Sprinkle with parsley
before serving.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.
Source: "The Big Book of Soups
and Stews"

STEWED PORK WITH APRICOT SAUCE

Pork:

1/2 cup vegetable oil
3 1/3 pounds pork leg or pork
loin, cut into chunks
6 sprigs thyme
8 whole bay leaves



THE BIG BOOK OF SOUPS & STEWS: 262 Recipes for Serious Comfort Food by Maryana Vollstedt (Chronicle Books). Suggested price \$19.95.

1 medium white onion, spiked
with 8 whole cloves
20 whole black peppercorns
1/2 garlic head, cut in half across
the grain

Salt, to taste

8 cups water

Apricot Sauce:

10 fresh chiles chilhuacales or 6
chiles mulatos, washed, seeded
and deveined, roasted and soaked
in salted water

6 fresh chiles pasilla, washed,
seeded and deveined, roasted and
soaked in salted water (substitute
dried red chiles for both chiles, if
necessary)

1 1/2 cups dried apricots or 1
cup prunes, pitted
1 1/2 medium white onions,
peeled and roasted
12 garlic cloves, peeled and
roasted

20 whole black peppercorns
8 whole cloves

1 tablespoon oregano
1/2 cup vegetable oil or lard

1 (4-inch) cinnamon stick
Sugar, to taste

Salt, to taste

For pork: Heat the oil in a pres-
sure cooker or heavy pot and
brown the pork with thyme, bay
leaves, onion, peppercorns, garlic

and salt, to taste. Then add water
and cover. Cook for about 45 min-
utes to 1 hour (or longer if not us-
ing pressure cooker). Remove from
heat and allow to cool. Remove
pork from broth. Strain broth and
retain for another use, if desired.

Prepare the sauce: Place the
chiles, apricots, onion, garlic, pep-
percorns, cloves, oregano and a lit-
tle water in a food processor and
puree. In a medium saucepan, heat
the oil. Add the blended sauce and
the cinnamon stick. Season to taste
with sugar and salt. Simmer until

See RECIPES, Page 2

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High-tech: the quest for the perfect gizmo-gadgets

BY DAVID COLKER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the sentimental and irresistible 1950 film "The Goldbergs," there's a dinner scene during which Jake Goldberg talks about his hopes for the future. He tells his adored wife, Molly, he wishes he could buy her dinner plates made of gold.

Molly turns to him and asks, "Would the food taste any better?"

Which brings us to the subject of high-tech appliances that kitchen shops, mail-order catalogs and Internet sites are offering this new year. Equipped with microchips and digital readouts, these devices are designed to do tasks formerly done with old-fashioned analog machines — or sometimes no machines at all.

Is there really a need for a "fuzzy logic" rice cooker, electronic cocktail jigger or digital coffee scoop?

To find out, we gathered together a group of home cooks — some of whom love gadgets and others who hate the idea of any kitchen item that comes with a manual. We found that some of these devices — ranging in price from \$20 to \$1,200 — are just plain useless and even hilarious.

But there are a few even Molly would have loved.

■ **FrancisFrancis! X4 Espresso Machine** (\$1,195.99 at Williams-Sonoma) is the most expensive item in our test, and it looks it. With a stainless-steel body that is part Art Deco and part industrial chic, this handsome machine is a lovely kitchen sculpture. But can it make coffee? Yes, and very well, although the coffee snob in the group (me) sniffed that the finished product could have used a bit more "crema."

But the machine's high-tech component — which allows the viewing of the exact operating tem-

perature and lets you program the X4 to go into "sleep cycle" between uses — is largely digital window dressing. If you like the styling of the FrancisFrancis!, the analogue X1 version at about \$500 is the same basic machine. In fact, it looks even cooler, with its retro toggle switches and circular temperature dial.

■ **Smart Coffee Scoop** (\$20 at Brookstone) is one of those items that got lots of laughs from the test group. The device's handle includes a digital readout that simply lets you know how many scoops per cup to use. For example, if you want to make four

a beeping alarm is triggered. The idea is that you can be with your guests and not worry about checking the oven every few minutes.

It works wonderfully well, but it'd be even nicer if you could wear the receiver on a belt like a pager. Then you could ask the crowd, "Is that my agent calling or is the turkey done?"

■ **National Electronic Rice Cooker/Warmer** (\$199 at Williams-

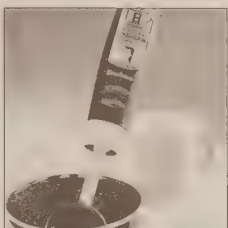


FRANCISFRANCIS! X4 ESPRESSO MACHINE.
Suggested price \$1,195.99.

cups of "medium" strength coffee, it tells you to use four scoops and for a stronger brew, use five. This one rates high on the "duh" scale.

■ **Remote Thermometer** (\$54 at Williams-Sonoma) is a digital meat thermometer with a little transmitter that sends a wireless signal to a tabletop unit (about the size of a kitchen timer) that you can carry into the next room.

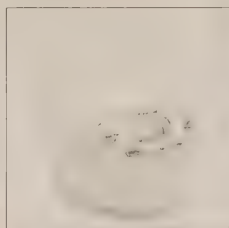
When your roast reaches the optimum temperature — you can go with their built-in settings, which can lead to overdone in some cases, or set your own —



SMART COFFEE SCOOP.
Suggested price \$20.

Sonoma) is a winner, albeit a pricey one. This machine supposedly uses fuzzy-logic microchip technology to adjust to varying conditions. But whatever makes it work, the Calrose rice used for the test turned out perfectly fluffy and fragrant. And, best of all, the unit's warmer cycle keeps the rice in pristine condition for at least three hours (don't try this feature with brown rice, which can go bad when kept under constant heat). The ergonomics of the oval-shaped machine also gets high marks.

■ **Digital Wine Thermometer** (\$24.95 at Sharper Image) is a handy item with a flaw. It not only takes the temperature of the wine in the bottle, it tells you if that par-



NATIONAL ELECTRONIC RICE COOKER/WARMER.
Suggested price \$199.

ticular "vino" is at the optimum temperature for imbibing. The problem is that the bottle needs to be uncorked for the device to work. Thus, if the wine needs further cooling, the bottle needs to be recorked and returned to the fridge. A wine connoisseur might not approve.

■ **Wine Smart** (\$20 at Brookstone) is a pocket-sized device that has a digital screen to suggest the type of wine that would be appropriate to serve with various foods. Not a bad idea, but it is odd that it comes attached to a key ring. As my friend John noted, "It's just the thing for those who are planning to drink and drive."

■ **Bar Smart Cocktail Jigger** (\$35 at Brookstone) is a regular jigger with directions for 40 cocktails programmed into its digital-screen-equipped handle. Some of the recipes are a bit mysterious. The Bar Smart's margarita calls for regular instead of sweetened lime juice and there is no mention of ice. The result is a room temperature, quite sour, margarita.

So, when all was said and done and the dessert (a chocolate sorbet, made with a hand-



REMOTE THERMOMETER.
Suggested price \$54.



BAR SMART COCKTAIL JIGGER. Suggested price \$35.

cranked ice cream machine sans anything digital) was served, the question remained: Did the food taste better? No. Everything we did could have been made as well or better with analog equipment.

But the rice maker, remote thermometer and wine thermometer made our tasks easier and more fun.

And we'll be laughing at the coffee scoop for years.

Tips for making the perfect stew

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS

Looking to make the perfect pot of stew? Here's how, according to "The Big Book of Soups and Stews" (Chronicle Books, \$19.95) and other sources:

When browning meat, don't overcrowd the saute pan. You want pieces of meat to brown individually, so the juices are sealed in. If the pieces touch each other, the meat will steam.

Not all vegetables are created equally. Carrots, potatoes and other root vegetables take a longer time to cook than mushrooms, green beans and squash. Add the latter at the end of cooking to prevent them from disintegrating.

Simmer stews over medium-low or low heat. Do not boil.

Add fresh herbs at the end of cooking time or they will lose their flavor.

If you want a thicker stew, brown the meat before browning the flour as well as the meat. This keeps the stew from having a flour taste.

Taste the stew while it is cooking and adjust seasonings. Warm bowls before you add the stew into them, if desired, so the stew will stay warmer longer.

Store soups and stews in the refrigerator for 3 or 4 days. Leave the lid off that accumulates on top, ready to serve. Or freeze in covered containers.

Reheat over low heat, constantly. If using a microwave, watch carefully and do not cook.

If you really want to ahead, make most stews (except soups excluded) a day in advance. The extra time will allow flavors to settle even more.

Recipes

FROM PAGE 1

the mixture releases its fat, approximately 45 minutes. Then add the pork. Continue cooking until the mixture has thickened somewhat, about 30 minutes. Remove cinnamon stick before serving.

Makes 8 servings.
Source: Adapted from "Mexico's Feast of Life"

BEEF STEW WITH TOMATOES AND TOMATILLOS

2 pounds beef, inside round
2 tablespoons cooking oil
1 medium white onion
1 clove garlic
1 1/2 pounds potatoes
Water, to cover ingredients
2 tomatoes
1/4 pound tomatillos
1 bay leaf
1/4 teaspoon oregano
Salt, to taste
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
2 tablespoons canned chipotle
Chop meat into 1-inch cubes. Brown meat in hot oil in large pot over high heat. Julienne the onion and chop the garlic; add them to the browning meat, reduce heat by half and cook for about 5 minutes. Chop potatoes into 1/2-inch cubes, add them to the pot and continue to cook yet another 5 or 10 minutes. Add enough water to cover ingredients.

While stew comes to a simmer, stem and core the tomatoes, reduce them to a pure in a food processor and add to the pot. Remove the husks from the tomatillos, wash them, chop them roughly in the food processor (pulsing 4 to 5 times), then add to the simmering pot. Add bay leaf. Cook until meat is tender and potatoes are done, then add oregano, salt, black pepper and canned chipotle.

At this point the stew is done. Add water as needed. Reduce heat to lowest setting and allow to simmer gently through serving period.

Makes 6-8 servings.
Source: Oscar Trejo and Dwight Hobart, Liberty Bar, San Antonio

OVEN BURGUNDY BEEF STEW

4 thick slices bacon, diced
2 pounds round steak, cut into 1-inch pieces
Salt, to taste
Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
2 shallots, chopped, or 6 green onions, including some tender

green tops, sliced
2 cloves garlic, minced
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 1/2 cups Burgundy or any good, dry red wine 2 tablespoons brandy (optional)
1/2 cup beef stock or broth
1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
1/4 teaspoon dried marjoram
1 bay leaf
3 large carrots, cut diagonally into 1-inch slices
1 (2-inch) strip orange zest (use vegetable peeler)
1/2 pound boiling onions, peeled
8 ounces medium mushrooms, halved

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a Dutch oven over medium-high heat, cook bacon until crisp, about 5 minutes. With a slotted spoon, remove bacon to a plate, leaving 2 tablespoons of drippings in pan. Reduce heat to medium. Season meat with salt and pepper. Add to bacon drippings in pan along with shallots and garlic. Saut until meat

is browned and vegetables are tender, about 10 minutes. Stir in flour and blend. Add wine, brandy (if using), stock, thyme, marjoram, bay leaf, carrots, orange zest, onions and reserved bacon, and mix well. Bake, covered, 1 1/2 hours. Add mushrooms and bake, covered, until meat and mushrooms are tender, 20 minutes longer. Remove bay leaf and orange zest and discard.

Makes 4-6 servings.
Source: "The Big Book of Soups and Stews"

CHICKEN STEW

2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut in 1-inch cubes
2 large onions, quartered and cut into 1/2-inch slices
1 cup baby carrots, or 2 large carrots cut into 1-inch slices
3 medium potatoes, cut into 1-inch cubes
3 1/2 cups chicken broth
1 teaspoon celery seed
1 teaspoon dried thyme

1/2 teaspoon black pepper or seasoned pepper mix
Salt to taste
8 ounces sliced mushrooms
1 cup frozen corn, thawed
1 cup frozen peas, thawed

Combine all ingredients, except peas, in slow cooker; stir well. Cover. Cook on low 6 to 8 hours, until chicken is done and vegetables tender, stir in peas the last 30 minutes.

Makes 6-8 servings.
Source: <http://southernfood.about.com>

LENTIL AND SHORT RIB STEW

3 pounds short ribs, cut into 3-inch pieces
3 cups water
1 teaspoon salt
1 bay leaf
1 garlic clove, minced
1 onion, chopped
1 small celery stalk, chopped
1 cup dried lentils, washed and picked over
1/4 teaspoon thyme or oregano

Place short ribs in saucepan and add water, leaf, garlic, onion and oregano, covered, until the meat is tender, about 2 hours.

Add the lentils and thyme, continue cooking, stirring until the lentils are tender, about 15 minutes longer. Correct seasonings. Reheat. If the ribs are separated from the short ribs, move them before serving.

Makes 3 generous servings.

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Americans are smitten with an Old World passion

BY JOANNA PRUESS
AN WEEKLY FEATURES

Once autumn days reach Finns, wild mushrooms become an indispensable ingredient in the local cuisine. At least one salad, soup, stew or bread in every restaurant or home meal includes them. Often the mushrooms' source is nearby forest, since three out of five Finns gather their own. Those who don't forage find seasonal markets piled high with several kinds of local varieties. During the rest of the year, cups of creamed with jars of pickled chanterelles or bags of porcini are common. Because Finns go off to the forest to pick mushrooms from a very young age, "mushroom information is part of our upbringing," says Veronika Kumpulainen, a home economist at the Finnish Market in Helsinki. When we start cooking, we know which mushrooms mix with what and when to use herbs. They also know which ones to

Compare with the Finns, Americans have a long way to go. But mushrooms are becoming more popular. Over Agaricus bisporus, or button mushrooms — times changing. The honeycombed, oval, golden chanterelles with fringed caps, and smoky-grey porcini are just a few of the mushrooms now imparting various textures and flavors ranging from nutty, woody notes to subtle ones to dishes around the world. The USDA confirms that specialty mushroom sales, which include exotic and cultivated varieties, grew 10 percent in 2001. Without long-standing foraging traditions of our own, most Ameri-

cans turning on to the mysterious variety of edible fungi primarily rely on professional sources.

Growth in the wild mushroom industry is indisputable, says Eric Schramm, owner of the 20-year-old Mendocino Mushroom Co., based in Fort Bragg, Calif., the country's oldest solely wild-mushroom company. "In western North America, it's at least a \$400-million-a-year business."

Schramm, who considers himself a "little guy," harvests between 40,000 to 60,000 pounds each year, depending on growing conditions.

In season, he begins combing the mossy forest carpet around 5 a.m. When needed, he also employs between five and 100 additional pickers. By 3 p.m., Schramm sets up a buying station where local pickers sell their crops to him or whoever offers the highest price. Mendocino Mushroom Company then delivers mushrooms around the San Francisco Bay area and, through brokers, to Japan and Europe.

"The Japanese have eaten mushrooms for thousands of years. They buy them like we go to McDonald's. Last year, one exporter to Japan shipped 350 metric tons," Schramm adds. "Yet I still run into people every day who say, 'I hate mushrooms.'"

"It's like saying you hate all meat." In 1979, Connie Green of Wine Forest, a Napa Valley distributor, was the first person to sell locally grown chanterelles. "Most people didn't even know what they looked like," Green says. "French chefs said, 'Non, non,' they don't grow in America." Only Italians or eastern Europeans used them in their homes.

"Today, a selection of wild mushrooms in the cooler is a required

food item for any restaurant of note in San Francisco as much as in Europe," she said.

Over the last five years, the increased awareness of wild and exotic mushrooms has prompted supermarkets to expand the quantity and varieties they stock. Much of this is a result of diners enjoying mushroom dishes in restaurants and then finding chanterelles or morels listed as ingredients in cookbooks. People trying to cut back on meat are also more willing to experiment.

D'Artagnan, the Newark, N.J.-based game company, branched into mushrooms three years ago because of the natural affinity between the taste of mushrooms and flavorful wild bird and game meats. Thierry Farges, a consultant to the company, says: "Business, including truffles and cultivated varieties, has grown 55 percent within the last year," with sales of \$4 million in 2001.

"Since shiitakes and portobellos have become regular commodities, people now want something new. Our problem isn't selling them, it's finding enough good product."

D'Artagnan gets mushrooms from as far away as Latvia, as well as domestically. "Chanterelles from Nova Scotia are excellent but sporadic," says Farges. "Pacific Northwest morels are the best anywhere."

Cory Schreiber, a native Oregonian and chef-owner of Wildwood restaurant in Portland, Ore., is very familiar with local mushrooms and,

on occasion, goes foraging himself.

Hallmarks of his cuisine include liberal amounts of morels, as well as other mushrooms — lobsters, hedgehogs and chanterelles — from the Willamette Valley. Along with Oregon hazelnuts, clams, wines and other regional specialties, they form the cornerstones of his menu.

Chefs who personally harvest mushrooms voice a note of caution. Michel Nischan, executive chef of Heartbeat at the W Hotel, New York City, grew up in Connecticut with a mother who farmed and foraged.

"In an earlier restaurant, I used mushrooms, like hen-of-the-woods, that I collected in the Mianus Gorge. But it takes a lot of time to gather them," he says, "and you have to know what you're doing. Now I leave it to professionals."

At Chicago's Twelve 12 restaurant, regular customers are familiar with executive chef David Shea's interest in the subject. While he sometimes serves them wild mushroom amuses-bouches, they know that a botanist always accompanies Shea on his forays. For the most part, mushrooms he gathers end up in omelets for his wife.

Amateurs venturing into the woods can face difficulties. Like proverbial forbidden fruits, some of the most attractive mushrooms aren't edible. Even the tiniest speck of certain species can make you very sick or worse.

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See MUSHROOMS, Page 4

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Mushrooms

FROM PAGE 3

don't even dabble," Nischan says emphatically.

Many communities have foraging clubs and classes run by professionals to help people start to learn what is or is not safe. Some young mushrooms, for example, don't evidence toxic properties until they mature.

Unless fully grown specimens are nearby, or you can clearly distinguish the species, leave them. Older mushrooms or those that show signs of deterioration are also best ignored.

Some mushrooms aren't worth eating because of inferior flavor or texture. Of 3,000 species in local forests, Schramm says only 25 are worth eating. Generally, he says, smaller mushrooms are better because whether tiny or gigantic, each mushroom has only a finite number of cells. Larger mushrooms' larger cells simply contain more water.

Also, mushrooms are very porous. After a heavy rainfall, saturated mushrooms have minimal taste and easily rot.

If you go out collecting mushrooms: Keep each variety separate in paper bags or baskets. Plastic bags cause mushrooms to sweat and decay. At home, refrigerate them where air can circulate (not in closed vegetable bins), and use wild mushrooms as quickly as possible.

Since some wild mushrooms contain enzymes that upset sensitive stomachs, they shouldn't be eaten raw, adds Nischan. Quickly blanching them deactivates these enzymes and, just as important, because mushrooms come from a wild source, cleans the surfaces.

Along with the growing number of mycological societies, many wild-mushroom festivals are taking place across the country. One of the most comprehensive and informative is California's annual Mendocino Wine and Mushrooms Fest each November.

Bottom line: Being smitten and being smart about wild mushrooms aren't mutually exclusive.

Note on definitions:
■ Cultivated mushrooms grow in a controlled environment and are available all year.

■ Exotic mushrooms, while cultivated, are less-common varieties; among them are hen-of-the-woods and clamshells (honshimeji). They are grown on specific farms and are more costly.

■ Wild mushrooms grow seasonally in the forests.

A trio of mushroom recipes

The following is an exquisitely flavorful and subtly nuanced soup, adapted from Cory Schreiber of Wildwood restaurant, Portland, Ore.

CHANTERELLE SOUP WITH DRIED APPLES, HAZELNUTS AND APPLE BRANDY

3 tablespoons unsalted butter
3 ribs celery, chopped
2 parsnips, peeled and chopped
2 yellow onions, chopped
1 bulb fennel, trimmed and chopped
1 leek, white part only, washed and chopped
3 teaspoons salt or to taste
2 tablespoons water
2 pounds fresh chanterelles or cremini mushrooms, wiped clean and thinly sliced
8 cups chicken stock
1 cup apple cider
3 medium Yukon gold or russet potatoes, peeled and chopped
1 tablespoon fennel seeds, toasted and ground
½ cup apple brandy or hard cider
1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
Freshly ground black pepper to taste
¼ cup chopped dried apples
½ cup hazelnuts, toasted and skinned, and finely chopped
6 fresh sage leaves, thinly sliced crosswise

Melt 2 tablespoons of the butter in a heavy 4-quart pot over low heat. Add the celery, parsnips, onions, fennel, leek and 1 teaspoon of salt, and saute for 5 minutes. Stir in the water and ½ pound of the mushrooms, cover, and cook, stirring occasionally until the vegetables begin to soften, about 20 minutes. Add the stock and cider and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Add the potatoes and ground fennel and simmer until the potatoes are soft, 20 to 25 minutes. Let cool.

Puree the soup in a food

processor or electric blender, working in batches if necessary. Pass through a fine strainer; set aside.

Melt the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter in a heavy 4-quart pot over medium heat. Add the remaining mushrooms and saute until soft, about 8 minutes. Add the brandy or cider, vinegar, pepper, and the remaining 2 teaspoons of salt and simmer for 5 minutes. Pour in the pureed soup and heat until warm.

To serve: ladle soup into bowls, garnish with the apples, hazelnuts and sage.

Makes 8 servings.

Full-flavored, tender venison is complemented with the following robust mushroom mixture. It would be a great complement for filet of beef, as well. It is from "D'Artagnan's Glorious Game Cookbook" (Little, Brown, 1999, \$35).

VENISON MEDALLIONS WITH WILD MUSHROOM RAGOUT

3½ to 4 pounds boneless venison strip loin roast, well-trimmed and silver, skin removed
4½ cups good quality, hearty red wine
½ cup plus 1/3 cup Cognac or brandy
1 coarsely chopped plus 1 finely chopped carrot
1 onion, coarsely chopped
1 large rib celery, coarsely chopped
3 sprigs thyme
12 black peppercorns
6 juniper berries, bruised
10 tablespoons unsalted butter
¾ cup finely chopped celery root

1/3 cup finely chopped shallots
1½ pounds mixed wild mushrooms, such as chanterelles and

morels, wiped, coarse stems removed, if necessary, and cut into thick slices
3 tablespoons minced garlic
1 tablespoon cornstarch
Salt and coarsely ground black pepper to taste
Chervil or flat-leaf parsley sprigs, to garnish

Combine the venison with 3 cups of the red wine, and the ½ cup of Cognac. Add the coarsely chopped carrot, the celery, onion, 1 sprig of thyme, the peppercorns, and juniper berries in a large bowl or resealable plastic bags. Cover or seal, and refrigerate for at least 8 hours.

Meanwhile, melt 8 tablespoons (1 stick) of the butter in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the finely chopped carrot, celery root, shallots and mushrooms, and saute until wilted, about 5 minutes, stirring often. Stir in the garlic and cook for 30 seconds longer.

Pour in remaining 1½ cups of wine and 1/3 cup Cognac. Add the remaining thyme and bring the liquid to a boil over high heat. Reduce the heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Mix the cornstarch with a little of the liquid until smooth, then stir into the mixture and continue cooking for 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper, then set aside, or cover and refrigerate until needed.

Remove the venison from the marinade, blot dry, and season generously with salt and pepper. Melt the remaining 2 tablespoons of butter in a large roasting pan. When very hot, add the meat and sear on all sides (this will take 4 to 5 minutes). Transfer to the oven and roast for 20 to 23 minutes for medium-rare. Remove and let stand for 5 minutes.

Meanwhile, reheat the mush-

room mixture. Cut meat into 8 or 10 slices and serve on warmed plates. Spoon the mushrooms over the venison, garnish with chervil or parsley, and serve.
Makes 8 to 10 servings.

This recipe brings together fresh and dried mushrooms and uses the soaking liquid to add more flavor. It was created by Rosemary Campiformio, the highly regarded chef at St. Orres, Gualala, Calif.

WILD MUSHROOM TART

Filling:
4 ounces dried wild mushrooms (such as porcini, cepes or morels)
1½ cups warm water
1 cup fresh wild mushrooms, sliced

1 medium red onion, diced
¼ cup chopped flat leaf parsley
3 eggs, beaten
¼ cup olive oil
3 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 tablespoons tomato paste
1 cup veal stock
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

One 10-inch pre-baked tart crust (recipe follows)
Soak dried mushrooms in water for 20 minutes. Remove mushrooms from water and set aside. Reserve water. Mince onion and parsley together. Heat olive oil and saute the onion-mushroom mixture until onion is translucent.

Add fresh mushrooms, reconstituted dried mushrooms, and tomato paste. Simmer for a few minutes until fresh mushrooms start to soften. Add veal stock and reserved mushroom water and simmer until

mixture thickens, then remove the heat and cool completely.

Preheat oven to 375 F. Fill the tart crust with the mushroom mixture, season with salt and pepper, and pour into a pre-baked 10-inch tart shell. Bake for approximately 30 minutes until lightly browned. Remove from the oven and the tart to rest before slicing and serving.

Makes 8 servings.

Tart crust:
2½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup unsalted butter, cut into small pieces
¼ cup ice water
Combine flour and salt in a food processor and process until the mixture is crumbly. Add the ice water and pulse until the mixture just comes together. Roll out on a clean surface, gather dough into a ball, wrap in plastic wrap, and refrigerate for about an hour.

Divide dough in half and roll out on a floured surface, roll each half into a 12-inch round. Place one round into a 10-inch tart pan and fit it firmly into the bottom and sides. Trim off excess dough with a knife or crimp edges.

Place on a sheet pan and bake in a 350 F. oven for about 15 minutes, or until the edges of the shell are golden. Let cool before filling.

This recipe makes 2 tarts. You can make and freeze them if you have one ready to go.

For information on the Mendocino Wine and Mushrooms Fest, visit the Net:

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And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes...
neither shall there be any more pain.
Revelation 21:4

* Dr. Cluff gives lectures on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month (7 P.M.) on various pain topics. Lectures held at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Antioch (2200 Country Hills Drive, Antioch). All are welcome. For more information call phone # above.

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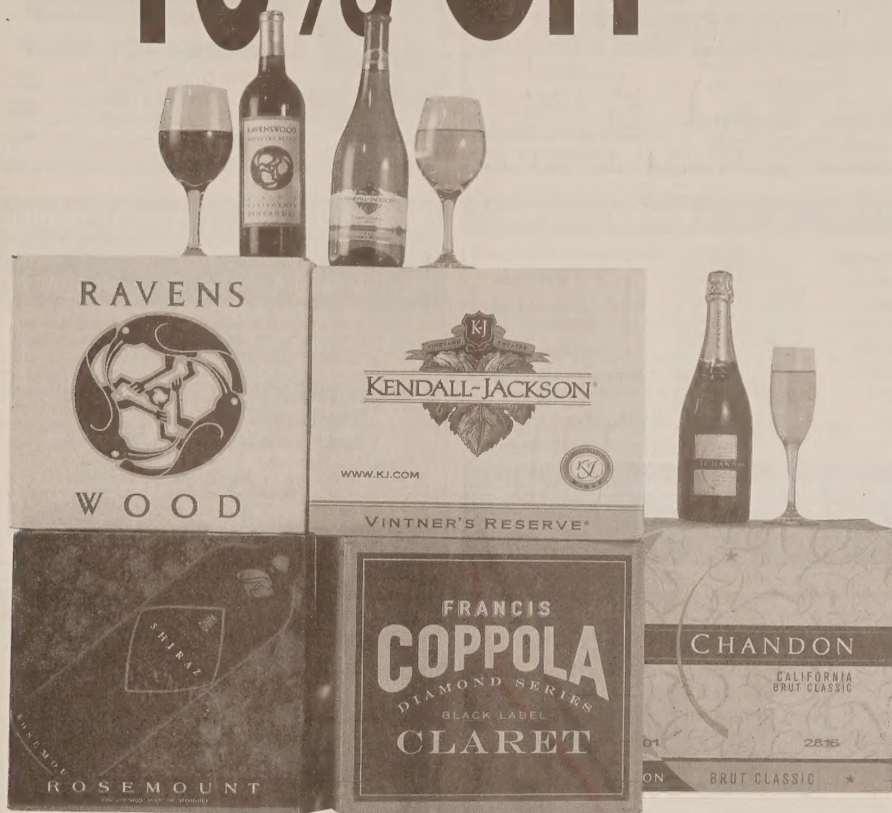
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ZENITH PINOT GRIGIO	\$6.99	\$209.77
BONNY DOON PACIFIC RIM RIESLING	\$7.99	\$239.77
COLUMBIA CREST GRAND ESTATE CHARDONNAY	\$8.99	\$269.77
GYFFER PEAK SAUVIGNON BLANC	\$8.99	\$269.77
KENDALL-JACKSON VR CHARDONNAY	\$9.99	\$299.77
STERLING SAUVIGNON BLANC	\$9.99	\$299.77
TEFFENBRUNNER PINOT GRIGIO	\$9.99	\$299.77
CHATEAU SOUVIGNON CHARDONNAY	\$10.99	\$329.77
VILLA MARIA SAUVIGNON BLANC	\$10.99	\$329.77
EDNA VALLEY CHARDONNAY	\$11.99	\$359.77
TOASTED HEAD CHARDONNAY	\$11.99	\$359.77
LA CREMA CHARDONNAY	\$12.99	\$389.77
FRANCISCAN OAKVILLE CHARDONNAY	\$12.99	\$389.77
SANTA MARGHERITA PINOT GRIGIO	\$16.99	\$509.77
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CHALONE CHARDONNAY	\$24.99	\$749.77
BERINGER PRIVATE RESERVE CHARDONNAY	\$32.99	\$989.77
FAR NIENTE CHARDONNAY	\$46.99	\$1409.77

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KENWOOD VINTAGE RED WINES	\$5.99	\$179.77
PEPPERWOOD GROVE SYRAH	\$5.99	\$179.77
BLACK OPAL CABERNET-MERLOT	\$6.99	\$209.77
CLINE ZINFANDEL	\$7.99	\$239.77
RANCHO ZABALCO HERITAGE ZINFANDEL	\$8.99	\$269.77
BLACKSTONE CALIFORNIA MERLOT	\$8.99	\$269.77
BONNY DOON BIG HOUSE RED WINES	\$8.99	\$269.77
FALESCO VITANO	\$8.99	\$269.77
MARQUES DE CACERES RIDIA	\$9.99	\$299.77
J. LOUIS SEVEN OAKS CABERNET SAUVIGNON	\$12.99	\$389.77
BV MAPA CABERNET SAUVIGNON	\$13.99	\$419.77
LOS VASCOS RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON	\$13.99	\$419.77
DAVID BRUCE PETITE SYRAH	\$13.99	\$419.77
ERIC NORMAN CABERNET-MERLOT	\$13.99	\$419.77
CABERNET DYNAMITE CABERNET SAUVIGNON	\$14.99	\$449.77
LA CREMA PINOT NOIR	\$14.99	\$449.77
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GROTH CABERNET SAUVIGNON	\$39.99	\$1199.77
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PYPER SONOMA BRUT	\$12.99	\$389.77
DOMAINE CHANDON BRUT or BLANC DE NOIRS	\$13.99	\$419.77
ROEDERER ESTATE BRUT	\$17.99	\$539.77
DOMAINE CHANDON RESERVE CUVEE	\$18.99	\$569.77
MUET & CHANDON WHITE STAR	\$25.99	\$779.77
PERrier JOUET GRAND BRUT	\$27.99	\$839.77
TATTLINGER LA FRANKFURT BRUT	\$32.99	\$989.77
YUHN CHICAGO NV BRUT	\$32.99	\$989.77
DOM PERIGNON	\$89.99	\$2699.77

CASES PICTURED

	EVERYDAY LOW PRICE	CASE
RAVENSWOOD VB ZINFANDEL	\$7.99	\$239.77
ROSEMOUNT SHIRAZ	\$8.99	\$269.77
KENDALL-JACKSON VR CHARDONNAY	\$9.99	\$299.77
COPPOLA DIAMOND CLARET	\$13.99	\$419.77

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Table with Two Leaves and Six Chairs

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